

Wabash Plain Dealer

TUESDAY
DECEMBER 3, 2019

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Pulse
of Wabash

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Check out our new website at www.wabashplaindealer.com and let us know what you think. Stories older than a few weeks are not yet available but will be soon. If you had an account on our previous site, you will need to create a new account. If you registered with the same email address we will be able to locate your previous subscription as well. Once registered, you can also verify your subscription. Please contact web support@wabashplaindealer.com with any questions. Thank you!

Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

'It's a Wonderful Life' to be shown at the Honeywell Center

"It's a Wonderful Life" will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3 in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. The admission fee will be \$2 per person.

Salamonie Preschool program 'B is for Bird Beak,' set for Dec. 3

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool's "B is for Bird Beak" from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3 at Upper Wabash Interpretive Services in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling 260-468-2127.

University Bands Concert set for Dec. 4

The University Bands Concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4 in the Assembly Room at Timbercrest Senior Living Community, 2201 East St., North Manchester. Tickets are \$5 general admission; free for MU students, faculty and staff.

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Difficult harvest nearing completion for state farmers

Wind, rain and snow slow work as delayed planting pushes progress late into the year

BY JARED KEEVER
jkeever@perutribune.com

Farmers across the state are wrapping up another difficult harvest season after a historically wet spring pushed their schedules deeper into the calendar than many were likely comfortable with.

"I wouldn't want corn in the field today," Mark Kunkle, a retired Miami County farmer whose son still farms, said Wednesday as high winds buffeted much of the state.

"He's been done probably

10 days ago," Kunkle said. "He said he thought things were pretty well in. But they weren't a week ago or better."

That's pretty much the picture across Indiana according to the latest Indiana Crop Weather report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

That report, published Monday, Nov. 25 said that the previous week had a "mostly dry start" that "allowed for significant

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PHOTO BY JARED KEEVER / jkeever@perutribune.com

WORK, WORK, WORK: Farmers work in a field off of Mexico Road in this late-October file photo.

The Wizards of Winter to cast holiday spell



PROVIDED PHOTO

TICKETS: The Wizards of Winter will be welcomed by Rock 98.5 and tickets are \$25, \$50 and \$75 each.

Progressive rock holiday music band to play Wabash on Dec. 15

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

Former members of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra (TSO), Rainbow, Blue Oyster Cult, Def Leppard and The Irish Tenors will join forces at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15 on the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater stage as they perform a holiday rock opera titled "The Christmas Dream."

The Wizards of Winter will be welcomed by Rock 98.5 and tickets are \$25, \$50 and \$75 each.

Making the band

In a phone interview last week, Scott Kelly, keyboardist and founder, said before he started the band a decade ago was not a career musician.

"There was a big rock scene here in the New Jersey, New York area back in

the '80s," he said. "I played in that circuit for a while, but then I got married, had kids and just stopped playing music. I didn't touch my instrument for almost 20 years."

Kelly said his children joining the high school marching band led to him volunteering to teach and playing once again. Then, in 2009, with the recession in full swing, the local food pantry needed help.

"There was a line a couple of blocks long for the food pantry,"

So, Scott Kelly and his wife, Sharon Kelly, assembled a band to perform a benefit concert. They ended up raising \$2,000 that day playing cover songs. He said that led to more and more requests for shows.

"We said, 'Well, if we're going to take this a little bit

more seriously, let's start writing some original music,'" he said.

The TSO connection

Around the same time Kelly decided to devote the band to performing original progressive rock holiday music, another band in the same narrow genre was undergoing a transition of their own.

In 2013, five original members of the TSO left the band and joined The Wizards of Winter.

"They'd listened to some of our original music and asked to join forces," said Kelly.

Kelly said the two bands get compared to each other often.

"We dress similarly in style, the guys do at least," he said. "(TSO was) the only game in town for a

long time. They're just completing their 20th year of touring and they've put such a big splash in the marketplace. They have a lot of money and things behind them with corporate sponsors and major investments and we didn't have any of that."

Kelly said they even fans compliment the band on shows they've never played. "A lot of times people will tell us, 'Oh, we saw you in this arena or that arena.' And we're like, 'No, no that's TSO. That wasn't us. But, we appreciate the compliment.'"

Kelly said that while TSO is the more established act, his band has been slowly building a legion of dedicated followers.

"We just finished our

See WIZARDS / Page A6

Ice skating, winter market and more to be available Friday

Wabash Marketplace announces December First Friday details

STAFF REPORT

Organized by Wabash Marketplace, First Friday encourages the community to celebrate downtown with extended hours from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, according to a press release.

"Downtown will be buzzing with activities," stated the release. "This free event features downtown shopping, food, live music, and kids' activities."

Event details are featured on the First Friday Guide. First Friday Guides can be picked up at Bellazo Revived Style, Crow's Nest Antique Mall, Birdie J's, Borders and Beyond Gallery, Wabash County Historical Museum, Visit Wabash County's Welcome Center, and Modoc's Market. If you visit all of the featured businesses to receive a validation mark, you will be entered to win the First Friday Gift Basket, sponsored by First Farmers Bank & Trust.

Back by popular demand, ice skating will be available on Miami Street. Brought to you by Wabash Rotary Club, open ice skating hours are from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Free will donations are

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ISDH offers tips for healthy holiday eating

Avoid overeating and consuming unsafely stored foods

STAFF REPORT

The arrival of the holiday season brings about plenty of family, friends, festivities and food, but extra pounds don't have to be part of your annual traditions. The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) is offering Hoosiers tips on how to enjoy the holidays without the weight gain that often comes with them,

according to a press release.

To avoid some common holiday eating pitfalls:

- Don't skip meals. Eat before you attend a party, so you don't show up hungry.

- Add fruit and vegetable trays to your holiday feast, and if you must add a dip, try yogurt-based dips.

- Limit high-calorie alcoholic drinks that can also lower inhibitions and increase the likelihood of overeating.

- Drink water and unsweetened drinks like iced tea instead of sweet, calorie-laden drinks. Drink water 30

minutes before each meal to help curb your appetite.

- Find ways to burn off extra calories. Sign up for a holiday walk or run. Go ice skating or walk around the neighborhood to see holiday decorations.

Holiday parties where food is served buffet style and sits out for long periods can also pose a health risk. Leaving food out at room temperature too long can cause bacteria, such as Salmonella and E.coli, to grow to dangerous levels that can cause illness. Follow these tips to keep your food safe:

- Never leave food out of refrigeration for more than two hours.

- Keep hot food at or above 140 degrees F. Place cooked food in chafing dishes, preheated steam tables, warming trays and/or slow cookers.

- Keep cold food at or below 40 degrees F. Keep food in the refrigerator or containers placed in bowls of ice. You also can use small serving trays and replace them often.

- Store leftovers properly by placing them in shallow containers for quick cooling

and refrigerating them at 40 degrees F or below within two hours.

- Cook poultry to a minimum internal temperature of 165 degrees F. If using stuffing inside the turkey, it should also be cooked to a minimum internal temperature of 165°F.

- Do not wash the turkey.
- Wash hands before working with food or when working from raw food to cooked food.

Visit ISDH at www.StateHealth.in.gov for important health and safety information.

IN BRIEF

Indiana child welfare caseworker charged with neglect of boy

ANDERSON (AP) — A caseworker for Indiana’s child welfare agency faces criminal charges stemming from the alleged neglect of a 4-year-old boy under his supervision. An arrest warrant was issued Monday for 26-year-old Spencer Day Osborn after prosecutors charged him with four felony counts of neglect of a dependent resulting in serious bodily injury on the recommendation of a Madison County grand jury. Online court records don’t list an attorney who could speak on Osborn’s behalf. The Herald Bulletin reports Osborn is an Indiana Department of Child Services caseworker. County Prosecutor Rodney Cummings says that after the boy was placed in foster care, Osborn allegedly

returned him to his mother, “where he was seriously injured multiple times.” The boy’s mother was charged with neglect in September after he was hospitalized with internal bleeding.

Central Indiana house fire kills 8-month-old boy

FRANKFORT (AP) — A central Indiana fire chief says an 8-month-old boy has died in a morning house fire. Frankfort Fire Chief John Kirby says the infant was in his crib on the first floor, and his father was unable to rescue him. The father and two other children escaped. Kirby says firefighters were called to the home shortly after 10 a.m. Monday and found it engulfed in flames. He says the fire started at the front of house and much of it was destroyed. The father, the two surviv-

ing children and a police officer were treated for smoke inhalation. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Republicans pick Huston as Indiana House speaker successor

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Republican legislators have selected State Rep. Todd Huston as their pick to become the next leader of the Indiana House. Huston won Monday’s private vote that was held two weeks after longtime House Speaker Brian Bosma announced he would retire after the 2020 legislative session. Huston is from the Indianapolis suburb of Fishers and was first elected to the Legislature in 2012. He led the House budget-writing committee this past year.

PULSE

Continued from A1

Manchester professor talks about how she is living her ‘Wild and Precious Life’

Professor Heather Schilling, chair and director of teacher education at Manchester University, will speak about staying true to the University Mission Statement in “Living this one ‘Wild and Precious Life’” at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5 in Cordier Auditorium.

Woman’s Clubhouse plans evening Christmas dinner

Don’t forget the Christmas evening dinner Thursday, Dec. 5. It is the annual holiday fundraiser with a very special dinner and entertainment. The house will be decorated in an angel theme this year. Contact Carol McDonald by phone at 260-563-2331 or Mary Delauter at 260-563-6613 for more information.

Manchester professor talks about how she is living her ‘Wild and Precious Life’

Professor Heather Schilling, chair and director of teacher education at Manchester University, will speak about staying true to the University Mission Statement in “Living this one ‘Wild and Precious Life’” at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5 in Cordier Auditorium.

Museum to host Family Fun Night

The Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market St., will host a Family Fun Night on Friday, Dec. 6, featuring a visit from Santa Claus.

Downtown businesses to extend hours on select dates

Participating shops will be open until 7 p.m. on the following dates: Dec. 6, 7, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20 and 21.

Lessons and Carols service set for Dec. 6

The Lessons and Carols worship service will take place at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester. This service blends lessons of the season with traditional Christmas carols and hymns, featuring Manchester University Chamber Singers and Cantabile.

Honeywell House to host holiday floral arranging

Jennifer Love-George of Love Bug Floral will instruct guests on creating a seasonal arrangement at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 7 at 720 N. Wabash St. The cost is \$25 per person, which covers all materials. Sponsorship is provided by Crossroads Bank. Seating is limited, but reservations are encouraged and can be

made at www.HoneywellHouse.org or by calling the Box Office at 260-563-1102.

Holiday Pops! concert set for Dec. 8

The Manchester Symphony Orchestra Holiday Pops! concert will take place at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8 in Cordier Auditorium. Tickets are \$15 general admission; free for MU students, faculty and staff, as well as all students age 18 and younger.

‘The Polar Express’ to be shown at the Honeywell Center

“The Polar Express” will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10 in the Honeywell Center’s Ford Theater. The admission fee will be \$2 per person.

Christmas at the Museum Annual Banquet planned

On Wednesday, Dec. 11, the Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market St., will be hosting Christmas at the Museum Annual Banquet.

Paint Like Bob Ross at the NMPL

Two Paint Like Bob Ross class take place at the North Manchester Public Library (NMPL) in December. The first, “Seasons Greetings,” will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11. The second, another “Poinsettias” session, will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. This class requires registration and a \$20 materials fee upon registering. Space is limited. Register at the front desk or call 260-982-4773.

Charley Creek Gardens to host 10th Annual Yule Time Stroll

Charley Creek Gardens will host its 10th Annual Yule Time Stroll, open to the public from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13 to Monday, Dec. 23 at 551 N. Miami St. This event is free and open to the public. Parking is available at 518 N. Wabash St.

LaFontaine Lions to host Santa Breakfast

The LaFontaine Lions will host a Santa Breakfast from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 at the LaFontaine Community Building. The menu will include scrambled eggs, pancakes,

sausage, sausage gravy, biscuit, juice, milk and coffee. Santa arrives at 9 a.m. There will be a free-will donation. Proceeds will go towards the LaFontaine United Methodist Church food pantry. Please bring in non-perishable foods. Donations of old glasses and keys will also be accepted.

‘White Christmas’ to be shown at the Honeywell Center

“White Christmas” will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 in the Honeywell Center’s Ford Theater. The admission fee will be \$2 per person.

Celebrate ‘The Wonders of Winter’ on Dec. 18

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool’s “The Wonders of Winter” from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18 at Salamonie Interpretive Center in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at 260-468-2127. For more information on other UWIS programs, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

DivorceCare presents ‘Surviving the Holidays’ series

The DivorceCare support group, which meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Room 112 in the Wabash Friends Church, 3563 South State Road 13, will be offering a DVD series “Surviving the Holidays” through Tuesday, Dec. 17. Group leader and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658 or group leader Janet Quillen at 260-571-5235; email office@wabashfriends.org; or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Breakfast with Santa planned

On Saturday, Dec. 21, Santa will be coming to Breakfast with Santa and will have a special treat for children at the Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market St.

Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaineader.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

5-Day Weather Summary

Tuesday Mostly Cloudy 39 / 30	Wednesday Partly Cloudy 40 / 28	Thursday Partly Cloudy 41 / 31	Friday Partly Cloudy 36 / 26	Saturday Mostly Sunny 39 / 31

Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 5:20 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 7:55 a.m.

First 12/4	Full 12/12	Last 12/18	New 12/26

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies, high of 39°, humidity of 70%. South southwest wind 8 to 16 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 30°. West wind 10 to 13 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 20°. Wednesday, skies will be partly cloudy, high of 40°, humidity of 69%.

Age-related lung changes affect their function

DEAR DOCTOR: I just turned 55 and have noticed that I get winded faster these days when I go running. Does getting older affect how much air your lungs can hold? Is there any way to increase it?

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier
Ask the Doctors



D E A R R E A D E R : Yes, aging does have an effect on our lungs and how they function. In fact, the decrease in capacity begins about a decade after our lungs become fully mature, which is in our early- to mid-20s.

Your question addresses something known as tidal volume, which is the amount of air that moves into and out of our lungs with each breath. For healthy adult women, tidal volume is about 0.4 liters. For men, it's about 0.5 liters. However, the volume of each breath is one of several variables that affect breathing function.

In addition to the lungs, the respiratory system includes the diaphragm, the dome-shaped muscle that separates the chest cavity from the abdomen; it also includes the ribs, sternum and supporting muscles and soft tissues, also referred to as the thoracic cage. Each of these plays an important role in breathing. The lungs hold the air, the motion of the diaphragm causes the lungs to fill and empty, and the thoracic cage provides support and protection.

As we age, the respiratory system undergoes gradual changes that affect its structure, physiology and immune function. Injury, poor posture, osteoporosis and the natural shrinkage of bones, muscles and soft tissues all contribute to a decrease in the size of the thoracic cage. This, in turn, has an effect on maximum air volume. A decrease in the strength of the diaphragm also affects how much air can be drawn into (and out of) the lungs. The lungs themselves lose elasticity with age, and the millions of tiny air sacs that they contain, known as alveoli, can lose shape and become “baggy.” Smoking and exposure to air pollu-

tion contribute to a decline in lung function. So do repeated respiratory illnesses, another reason to stay current with flu and other vaccinations.

The good news is that regular exercise can help to maintain lung function and tidal volume. Aerobic exercise is a great way to keep your lungs fit. Resistance training that targets the chest, shoulders and back muscles helps maintain strength and flexibility of the diaphragm and the thoracic cage. Breathing exercises, such as those done in yoga, are excellent tools for maintaining or increasing lung capacity. In deep breathing, also known as diaphragmatic breathing, you breathe in through the nose to fill your lungs from top to bottom. Be sure to

also breathe out as deeply as possible, so you get the maximum volume of air moving through the lungs. Adding resistance to the exhale by pursing the lips or tightening the throat is also beneficial.

It's important to remember that age-related changes to lung capacity occur gradually. If you ever experience a sudden or dramatic change to breathing, which can signal illness or injury, see your doctor right away.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.



Wabash Plain Dealer

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Showtimes for Wednesday, November 27- Thursday, December 5
All showtimes have Closed Captioning available.

Knives Out (PG13) Wed (11/27): 12:50, 4:00, 6:45 Thurs: 4:00, 6:45, 9:40 Fri & Sat: 12:50, 4:00, 6:45, 9:40 Sun: 12:50, 4:00, 6:45 Mon-Thurs: 6:45	Frozen II in 2D (PG) Wed (11/27): 1:20, 6:55 Thurs: 6:55, 9:30 Fri & Sat: 1:20, 6:55, 9:30 Sun: 1:20, 6:55 Mon-Thurs: 6:55	Ford V Ferrari (PG13) Wed (11/27): 12:40, 3:55, 6:35 Thurs: 3:55, 6:35, 9:50 Fr & Sat: 12:40, 3:55, 6:35, 9:50 Sun: 12:40, 3:55, 6:35 Mon-Thurs: 6:35
A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood (PG) Wed (11/27): 1:05, 4:05, 7:15 Thurs: 4:05, 7:15, 10:00 Fri & Sat: 1:05, 4:05, 7:15, 10:00 Sun: 1:05, 4:05, 7:15 Mon-Thurs: 7:15	Frozen II in RealD 3D (PG) Wed (11/27) - Sun: 3:45	Playing with Fire (PG) Wed (11/27): 1:40, 4:25, 7:05 Thurs: 4:25, 7:05 Fri-Sun: 1:40, 4:25, 7:05 Mon-Thurs: 7:05
Charlie's Angels (PG13) Thurs: (11/28) - Sat: 9:25		

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Schools close as U.S.
East braces for
‘long, difficult storm’

BY MARY ESCH
Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — A final wallop of a seemingly endless winter storm that impacted most of the country over the long holiday weekend is bearing down on the East, dumping heavy snow, shuttering schools and stymieing travel in the region Monday.

The storm dropped one round of snow on parts of the region late Sunday and could bring 10 to 20 inches total by Tuesday morning from Pennsylvania to Maine, forecasters said. Heavy snow was also expected in the Appalachian Mountains down to Tennessee and North Carolina. “It’s moving very slowly, so the snow is just going to continue through the day,” National Weather Service meteorologist Jennifer Vogt said Monday.

Since Sunday, the storm has already dropped 20 inches of snow in East Glenville, New York, 15 miles northwest of Albany — the highest snow total in the Northeast so far.

The same storm has pummeled the U.S. for days as it moved cross country, dumping heavy snow from California to the Midwest and inundating other areas with rain.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo declared a state of emergency Monday for seven counties in eastern New York and assigned 300 National Guard members to assist with snow removal. State police had responded to more than 740 storm-related crashes statewide since the snow started falling.

“We’re tough, we’ve seen it all, we can handle it all,” Cuomo said at a storm briefing before urging people to stay off the roads. He told nonessential state employees to stay home.

But some workers had no choice but to trudge through knee-high snow and brush off their cars before heading out on the slushy roads.

“I just hate driving in snow,” Kaia Jansson said as she raked snow off her car in Albany. “It’s always a mess and it’s cold and not fun.”

In Nashua, New Hampshire, Alana Kirkpatrick didn’t enjoy her 5 a.m. “workout,” which consisted of removing heaps of snow from her car.

“Why do I still live in New England?” she said.

Hundreds of schools were already closed throughout the region, with more snow on the way.

“It’s going to be a long, difficult storm,” Gov. Chris Sununu said.

In areas not already

bludgeoned by the first wave, schools closed preemptively as rain was expected to turn into snow in the region’s first significant storm of the season, a nor’easter so named because the winds typically come from the northeast.

At least four counties closed schools Monday in West Virginia, where 2 inches to a foot of snow was forecast. Closer to the heavily populated, coastal Interstate 95 corridor, a wintry mix was more likely.

In New Jersey, Gov. Phil Murphy said Monday at a news conference that the worst was still ahead. He closed state government for nonessential workers at noon.

Only 3 inches of snow was forecast for New York City, where schools were expected to remain open, and 5 inches for Philadelphia. Up to 9 inches, though, was possible in Boston by Tuesday night.

More than 450 flights into or out of the U.S. were canceled Monday morning, with more than 2,300 delays, according to the flight tracking site FlightAware. Airports in the New York and Boston areas accounted for many of them. There were 950 cancelations and 8,800 delays on Sunday.

The storm also caused major traffic disruptions. Tractor-trailers were banned or lower speed limits put in place on stretches of highway in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. New York also posted lower speed limits on some highways.

Many buses from New York City to Pennsylvania and upstate destinations such as Ithaca and Binghamton were canceled.

Dozens of school districts in upstate New York were closed Monday, along with several State University of New York campuses and other colleges. Many schools in southern Maine were also closed.

A commuter ferry on its way to Boston, where it was rainy and windy Monday morning, hit a wave and listed heavily, sending some passengers to the floor. No injuries were reported.

The trouble began in the East on Sunday as the storm moved out of the Midwest after days of pummeling parts of the U.S.

Duluth, Minnesota, is still cleaning up more than 21 inches of snow that dropped over the weekend. Major highways reopened in Wyoming and Colorado after blizzard conditions and drifting snow blocked them.

Leonor Elizabeth ‘Liz’ Krom

Funeral services for Leonor Elizabeth “Liz” Krom, 104, of North Manchester, formerly of rural Urbana, were 2:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 29, 2019, at Timbercrest Chapel, North Manchester. Pastor Kent Harting and Chaplain Laura Stone officiated. Vocalist was Carla

Krom and pianist was Erin Dougherty. Burial was in Laketon Cemetery, Laketon. Pallbearers were Ken Krom, Jeff Krom, Tony Krom, Terry Krom, Chris Krom and Andrew Krom. Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash, was in charge of arrangements.

Bonnie Jean (Reed) McVicker Dale

Funeral Services for Bonnie Jean (Reed) McVicker Dale, 93, of Wabash, were 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 30, 2019 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash. David Phillips officiated, Laura Eppley was the vocalist, and Marilyn

Speicher was the pianist. Memories were shared by family and friends. Pallbearers were Robert Deal, Bob Mendoza, Stan Reed, Alan Boggs, Dohn Wiley and Jim Dale. Burial was in LaFontaine IOOF Cemetery.

Jay S. McDonald

Funeral services were held for Jay S. McDonald on Saturday, Nov. 30, 2019 at McDonald Funeral Home, 231 Falls Avenue, Wabash. Pastor Ryan Weaver was the officiant. Phyllis Price was the pianist and Emily France was the soloist. During the service, friends and family

shared memories of Jay. Burial followed at Falls Cemetery in Wabash. Pallbearers were Reece McDonald, Ryan Crump, Jackson Barnett, Shane Crump, Logan McDonald and Grant Paulson.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.mcdonaldfunerals.com

David W.F. Cox

Funeral Services for David W.F. Cox, 96, of rural Wabash, were 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash. David Phillips officiated, and Susan Vandlingham was the pianist. Memories were shared by

family and friends. Entombment was in the Chapel of Remembrance Mausoleum at Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Pallbearers were Larry Veverka, Gary Kratzer, Brian Finney, John S. Howell, Ryan Chambers and Doug Simons.

Barbara A. Baer

Sept. 12, 1928 - Nov. 28, 2019

Barbara A. Baer, 91, of Warren, Indiana, died at 11:45 pm, Thursday, Nov. 28, 2019 at Heritage Pointe in Warren, Indiana. She was born Sept. 12, 1928 in Lafayette, Indiana to Bruce and Jennie E. (McDill) Condra.

Barbara was a 1946 graduate of Lafayette Jefferson High School, and a 1949 graduate of the Lafayette School of Nursing. She married Don E. Baer in Lafayette, Indiana on Feb. 4, 1950; he died Feb. 18, 2016. She was the Wabash City Schools Nurse from 1973-1990. Barbara was a member of the Solid Rock United Methodist Church in War-



ren, Indiana, and a longtime member of the Wabash First United Methodist Church. She was a former member of P.E.O. Barbara was an avid

Purdue Fan and a member of the John Purdue Club. She was a longtime resident of Wabash and enjoyed spending time on Little Barbee Lake.

She is survived by 3 children, Michael (Michele) Baer of Boynton Beach, Florida, Donna K. (Max) Highley of Wabash, and Joseph (Kathy) Baer of Spencer, Indiana, 7 grandchildren, G. Forrest Baer of Boulder, Colorado, Morgan (Marla) Baer of Boynton Beach, Jill (Kevin) DuBois of Muncie, Indiana, Eric (Melissa) Highley of Goshen, Indiana, Alex Baer, Kallah Baer, and Jordan (Sydney) Baer, all of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and 10 great grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by her parents.

Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2019 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Kathy Newton officiating. Friends may call 4 - 7 pm Monday, Dec. 9, 2019, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorial is the Heritage Pointe Nursing Scholarship Fund. The memorial guest book for Barbara may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Chicago mayor fires city’s
top cop over ‘ethical lapses’

BY SOPHIA TAREEN
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot fired the city’s retiring police superintendent Monday, citing “ethical lapses” that included telling lies about a recent incident in which Eddie Johnson was found asleep at the wheel of his car after having drinks.

Named to the job in the wake of a police shooting that killed a black teenager, Johnson was dismissed after the mayor reviewed an inspector general’s report and video evidence related to the night in mid-October when officers discovered him unconscious in his SUV. He initially blamed failure to take his blood pressure medication and said he had a few drinks with dinner earlier in the evening.

The officers did not conduct any sobriety tests and let their boss drive home.

Johnson “engaged in a series of actions that are intolerable for any leader or position of trust, particularly the head of the Chicago Police Department,” the mayor said. Johnson’s conduct

was “not only unbecoming but demonstrates a series of ethical lapses and flawed decision-making.”

Lightfoot said the police chief of the nation’s third-largest city repeatedly lied about the events that unfolded the night of Oct. 16 and morning of Oct. 17.

“What he portrayed to me, what he portrayed to the public was fundamentally different than what the facts show,” she said. The underlying conduct “warranted this significant and serious action of relieving him of his role.”

At a hastily called news conference, the mayor declined to offer details “out of deference” to Johnson’s wife and children and the ongoing investigation. The report may become public in the future, she said.

Former Los Angeles Police Chief Charlie Beck, who was already named interim superintendent in Chicago, was to take over immediately, Lightfoot said.

A Chicago police spokesman did not immediately return messages seeking comment from Johnson, who

in more than 30 years with the department held almost every rank on the force. He declined to discuss his firing with a Sun-Times reporter who came to his South Side home.

In October, Johnson called for the department’s internal affairs division to investigate the incident, saying he wanted the public to be confident that both he and the officers acted properly. He said he felt lightheaded while driving home, pulled over and fell asleep. During his tenure, he was hospitalized for a blood clot and kidney transplant.

Weeks later, Johnson announced he would retire at the end of the year. He appeared with Lightfoot at an emotional news conference commemorating his long career, an appearance that Lightfoot said Monday she now regretted.

“This department has to be about creating a culture of integrity and accountability, and that’s what we’re going to do,” Lightfoot said.

Johnson, a native Chicagoan, was named superintendent in 2016 by then-Mayor Rahm

Emanuel, who had fired Superintendent Garry McCarthy after the release of the now-infamous video showing officer Jason Van Dyke shooting teenager Laquan McDonald. At the time, Emanuel was scrambling to restore public confidence.

Eschewing the recommendations of his police board that conducted a national search, Emanuel settled on Johnson, the interim superintendent who had not even applied for the job. An African American who spent his early childhood living in one of the city’s most notorious public housing projects, the soft-spoken Johnson was a popular choice with the rank-and-file who felt they could trust him far more than McCarthy, a brash outsider who spent most of his career in New York.

Johnson took over the department of roughly 13,500 officers as the city grappled with a spike in already high violent crime. By the end of the year that saw thousands of shooting incidents, the number of dead totaled nearly 800 — or 300 more than just the year before.

FARM

Continued from A1

harvest progress before late-week rains slowed field activity.”

“Harvests for both corn and soybeans neared completion thanks to a relatively dry week, though drying the higher moisture corn crop caused some delay,” the report said.

The soybean crop ended the week at 94 percent completion, up from 91 percent the previous week. Corn jumped from 80 to 89 percent. After a lag caused by the delayed planting, as well as winds and precipitation around the end of Oc-

tober, those percentages are finally closing in on year-to-date numbers and five-year averages.

Last year, 95 percent of the state’s corn and soybeans were in by this time, the report showed. The five-year average for corn is 95 percent and 97 percent for soybeans.

Last year wasn’t easy either, according to Kunkle. “Too wet,” he said. “It was cutting up the fields.”

Because of the delays with this season, the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service is planning to continue publishing harvest statistics in a national report, the latest state-level report said.



STILL STANDING: Corn stands in a field north of Peru on Wednesday afternoon.

PHOTO BY JARED KEEVER / jkeever@perutribune.com

speak up

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
http://coats.senate.gov/contact

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
http://braun.senate.gov/

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. David Wolkins, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

letters guidelines

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 123 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

inspiration corner

Daily scripture

O LORD, ... be not silent. Do not be far from me, O Lord. Awake, and rise to my defense! Contend for me, my God and Lord.

—Psalm 35:22-23

A bureaucrat stopped Trump from crossing an ethical line

The world was treated last month to the redemptive sight of an American government employee holding the President of the United States to account. Fiona Hill's testimony at Donald Trump's impeachment hearing was brave and necessary, and a welcome reminder of the critical role professional public servants play in a democracy.

Today that role is more important than ever. As feral partisanship devours our politics, and governments – Ottawa included – continue to centralize power at the expense of elected legislatures, the boring, grey men and women of the bureaucracy could wind up saving us all.

Ms. Hill's testimony was an example of that, and also of the dual role public servants can play when the times call for it.

As Mr. Trump's chief adviser on Russian and European affairs on the National Security Council, Ms. Hill's job was to inform the President's agenda and help co-ordinate its implementation – whether she agreed with it or not.

It's the same role carried out in Canada by federal and provincial deputy ministers, senior executives and the entire public service.

One minute you're implementing a major policy – a carbon tax, for instance – and the next you are dismantling it because a new government has different ideas. A public servant might advise for or against the change, but in the end they must quietly carry out the elected government's agenda in an unbiased fashion.

On occasion, though, a bureaucrat may be forced to abandon grey anony-

mymity for the glare of public disclosure.

Ms. Hill did that. She resigned from the NSC in July, and last week she added to the growing bounty of evidence supporting the allegation that Mr. Trump tried to shake down the newly elected President of Ukraine.

Mr. Trump used unofficial channels to tell Volodymyr Zelensky that the White House would hold back millions in Congressionally approved military aid if he didn't announce that his government was investigating Mr. Trump's chief domestic political rival, Democrat Joe Biden, on corruption charges, and also that it was looking into the debunked claim that Ukraine had interfered in the 2016 U.S. election.

Mr. Zelensky was also allegedly informed that securing a meeting with the White House was dependent on his co-operation. Because the story leaked to the press in time, the White House ended up sending the aid without getting Mr. Trump his quid pro quo.

Ms. Hill's testimony was widely hailed as an example of a public servant standing up for the public interest in the face of wrongdoing. And it indeed fell on the right side of a line that all public servants must walk.

There's an important difference between the bureaucrat who publicly voices a personal disagreement with a government policy and one who has discovered something illegal or unethical, and blows the whistle.

The former is almost always wrong. Public servants must implement an administration's policies

without bias. They are unelected; they have no democratic authority to try to usurp the wishes of the elected.

In 2015, after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau won his first election, there was a justified outcry when civil servants in the Global Affairs department inappropriately cheered his victory when he visited their offices. Canadian bureaucrats aren't prohibited from voting, but they have to maintain the appearance of impartiality in public and can never let personal political beliefs infect their work.

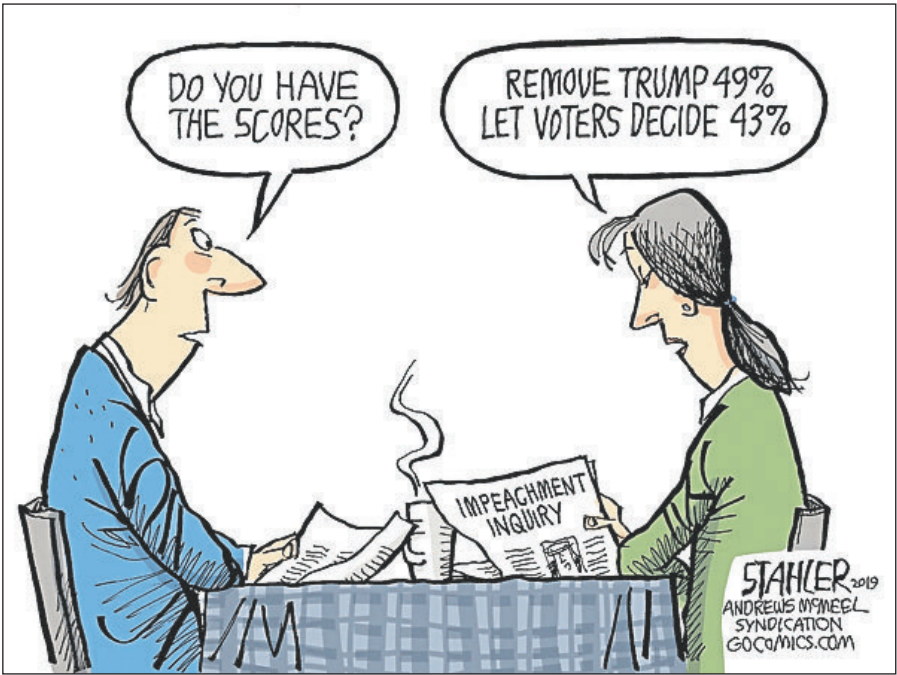
The same goes for deputy ministers – the top civil servant in every ministry. It's less the case in the U.S. federal government, where cabinet jobs go to appointees whose politics and vision align with those of the president of the day, and where the top officials in most departments are routinely changed on the same grounds.

But even though the systems are different, the principle is universal: Democracy depends on bureaucrats who are professionally neutral and whose overriding allegiance is not to a political party but to the rule of law.

Mr. Trump is a reminder that some politicians would love the convenience of a politicized civil service that puts the leader's interests before those of the public and turns a blind eye to his or her wrongdoing.

Ms. Hill, in turn, reminds us that, sometimes, the person protecting us against the erosion of democracy is the unelected, professional, ethical bureaucrat.

This editorial was first published in The Globe and Mail.



Economic policies stuck in the 1960s

The year 1971 was important for economic development in Indiana. For in that year, the actual number of jobs created in firms attracted directly by government policies declined. In 1971, the U.S. economy chugged along well, and overall job creation in Indiana was strong. However, we lost jobs among those businesses who produce goods and services within Indiana but sell to consumers outside their local area. These are the types of jobs the state tries to lure with tax incentives, specialized vocational training programs and a good tax and regulatory climate.

For almost a half century, Indiana has been bleeding these 'footloose' jobs, while jobs that depend on the size and spending power of local families have exploded. Today, nearly 50 years later, we have about a half million fewer of the 'footloose' jobs and well over 1.6 million more of the 'non-footloose' jobs that depend on local sales.

The notion that our economy will prosper if only we can attract new businesses to Indiana has failed us for a half century. That idea has failed us through both Democrat and Republican administrations, it has failed us in cities and counties around the state, it has failed us in rural areas, small towns and large cities. All the while these policies failed us, state and local governments spent well over a billion dollars a year in attracting these firms.

To many folks, the idea that 'attracting jobs' has failed is deeply subversive and almost anti-American. After all, we are a nation of commerce, and free markets and free people are the only path to lasting prosperity. However, spending taxpayer dollars to attract a particular type of business to your community is antithetical to free markets. It is not an idea that should animate

either political party. That it plainly does not work should appeal to the pragmatists of all political stripes.

The billion dollars lost each year to a failed venture should disappoint most Hoosiers, though those who benefit from this largesse are certain to sing its praises. Still, I don't think the mal-spending of a billion dollars each year is the biggest failing of our 'business attraction' policies. The real catastrophe of this type of thinking is that it leads us to listen to a very narrow group of voices. They give us bad advice when it comes to taxes, spending and other public policies like education priorities.

Today, the voices that matter to spending, education and workforce are those tiny few who represent the footloose or attractive industries. It is these folks who push vocation training down to middle school students and complain when the right number of 'vocational certificates' aren't produced in high schools. It is these folks who push us to shift money from K-12 and college to post-secondary remediation and vocational education.

Again, it is unpopular for many to hear, but the nation just isn't producing any new jobs for men and women who have not been to college. That trend is a half century old, and shows absolutely no sign of stopping. In the most recent year for which we have data, the United States has created more than 2.2 million new jobs for adults with four-year college degrees. Over the same time our nation lost 157,000 jobs for those without a college degree.

This increasing demand for college graduates is accompanied by wage increases. After adjusting for inflation, hourly wages for college graduates are well above the pre-recession level and rising rapidly. Wages for everyone else are still below the 1980 level. It is the demand, not the supply, of college-educated workers that is causing wage gains.

These facts ought to put to rest instantly the bizarre and fact-starved claim that there are too many kids

heading to college, and too few entering other occupations. Yet, that is precisely the view that informs Indiana's approach to education. So, we cut funding to colleges, we flat-line K-12 spending and shift money into workforce development. All of these policies are attributable to either ignoring the plainly available data or listening to the voices of the few who want a steady stream of low-cost workers for their businesses.

It is far past time for the General Assembly and elected leaders throughout the state to think harder about what constitutes real economic development. If the path to economic prosperity was a low tax and regulatory climate combined with an abundance of vocational jobs, then San Francisco, Palo Alto, Seattle, Boston, and Austin would all be ghost towns, while every inch of Indiana would be thriving.

If Indiana is to flourish, we must get back to the basics that made the Midwest the envy of world growth in the early part of the 20th century. More than 100 years ago, we invested more in education, and it paid off. Our state likely had higher literacy rates in 1900 than did Great Britain. We are going to have to ensure more, not fewer, Hoosier children go to college and complete their education. Importantly, these are just two parts of making the state a place people wish to make a life in. We have to understand better what will keep families in Indiana, which mostly means listening to different voices.

There's lots of talk about talent retention and attraction, but budgets, not speeches, outline priorities. It is time to shift more resources towards spending that attracts people, and worry far less about attracting businesses. Fifty years of those policies have resulted in fewer 'footloose jobs' than Indiana had in the Nixon Administration. I know it is a radical idea, but it is surely time for a change.

Michael J. Hicks can be reached by email at cberdirector@bsu.edu.

South Bend development: It's scared of its own shadows

BY JOHN F. GASKI

Several years ago, the South Bend Tribune printed a speculative, futuristic rendering of a potential South Bend skyline, along with an article featuring the titular question, "Can We Dream Big?" Most readers likely had my same natural reaction, to wit: The dream hardly matters and speculation is idle as long as our city has such economically misguided political leadership, the same kind of stagnant administration decade after decade.

In fact, South Bend's development regulators are literally afraid of their own shadows. Recall how some East Bank and downtown real estate projects were grounded or constricted recently because zoning and planning authorities were so concerned about the shadows cast by multi-story – not even high-rise – structures. Public ridicule is long overdue regarding the city government's anti-development decisions.

The newspaper's fanciful skyscraper skyline will never have a chance to get on the ground in this town if we continue to have the same breed of public officials. Good thing the developers of Manhattan, Hong Kong, San Francisco the Eiffel Tower, Shanghai and other classic urban skylines were not afraid of shadows.

Having recently noticed the construction advances with the new Cascade building on the river near downtown, however, I see that the structure already is improving our center city's aesthetics, even in its unfinished condition. Bleak empty space in a highly visible location is being filled with economic development and conspicuous progress. It is also reasonable to foresee that the Cascade project – the cosmetic aspect and otherwise – will contribute materially to further downtown development, which our community has been desperate for since Studebaker's demise.

This is the good news. Panzica Corp., the developer, has already done more for South Bend than nearly every living local politician. The same can be said for Dave Matthews, especially if his long-harassed LaSalle edifice ever is allowed to be built. That multi-use project is to provide vital infrastructure to support further in-town development.

The middling news us that at least some of developer Matthews' big new projects finally have been approved by city government and are under way. Unfortunately, their scope has been curtailed subjectively and judgmentally by the pols and urban planners in government. Some of the projected buildings could have been larger, with more beneficial economic impact for the city via needed density and critical mass. But no, those shadow concerns again.

We can hypothesize about the underlying problem but it seems straightforward: Local zoning and planning officials have short-changed objective economic factors in evaluating candidate development projects in favor of squishy subjectivity and politics. This is natural because, for most public officials, the squishy and the political constitute their professional background.

Unbridled development is preferred instead? No, just regulation based on economics and reason rather than politics and whim. The root problem has become clear: Local regulatory mediocrity occurs because the regulators are appointed by pols who, themselves, are mediocrities. Our outgoing mayor is clearly no mediocrity academically or in terms of marketing himself. Yet the quality of South Bend streets, law enforcement and some personnel appointments collectively suggest that he is no better than the rest as a city manager.

We can hope that our area's urban planners might adopt one of the Notre Dame Architecture School's new plans for the rest of east downtown's barren moonscape. But let us not get hopes too high. The motto "Dream(ing) big" is still moot in South Bend given its long-term political rut – the real shadow over our city.

John F. Gaski, Ph.D. is an adjunct scholar of the Indiana Policy Review Foundation.

Metzger Property Services adds associate auctioneer

John Burnau to serve Kosciusko and surrounding counties

STAFF REPORT

Metzger Property Services announced the addition of John Burnau as an associate auctioneer serving Kosciusko and surrounding counties, according to a press release.

Burnau is from Leesburg and has been working around auctions since 1982. He is a graduate of the Ohio Auction School and a current member of the Indiana Auctioneer's Association & the National Auctioneer's Association.

He also holds auctioneer's licenses in Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois and Florida and is a member of each states'



PROVIDED PHOTO
NEW HIRE: Metzger Property Services announced the addition of John Burnau as an associate auctioneer serving Kosciusko and surrounding counties.

respective Auction Associations. John holds a Federal Firearms License and specializes in farm and heavy equipment auctions.

"John has years of experience as a farm equipment, firearms and antiques deal-

er." stated Chad Metzger, company owner. "That experience combined with John's Leesburg location is a natural complement to our existing service area. We are excited to continue to expand and improve our service to this area through John's addition."

Metzger Property Services has been conducting professional auctions, appraisals and selling real estate for over 45 years. They conduct 200-plus auctions annually specializing in farmland, real estate and personal property auctions. They have won numerous national- and state-level marketing awards. Burnau's addition brings the company ranks to 15 auctioneers and nine real estate brokers with licenses in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky and Mississippi.

When you can't afford to give gifts because you're deep in debt

When you're in debt, the responsible thing to do is to ignore the holiday ads that say love comes wrapped in a pretty box with a bow.

Michelle Singletary



Yet you've been indoctrinated to give until it hurts, even if it means putting off paying down debt.

This is the predicament facing a Virginia couple

whose situation may be similar to yours. Your debt load may not be as heavy but you're also struggling with how to pull back on your giving.

"I have two young kids and will need to at least get them a few presents under the tree," wrote the wife. "My husband and I have \$62,000 of credit card debt. We are working with a debt-management service to wipe it out in three years. It's tough, I'm not going to lie, but I'm worried over what to tell people about not reciprocating gifts. Any advice?"

Before answering, I needed some background. How old are the children? How do you end up amassing such a huge amount of credit card debt?

A lot of the debt was accumulated after the wife lost her job during the Great Recession. It took her a year and a half to find a new one. Almost everything went on credit – rent, utilities, groceries, she said.

There were wedding expenses, followed by child-care costs for their two kids.

"Then, it was more living expenses, bad choices, impulse buys and retail therapy," she said. "I tried to

consolidate my debt into one credit card with a lower interest rate, but the fine print, which I only read later, said that it had to be paid within 12 months, which it wasn't. Over the years, more balance transfers, on top of purchases, made the total credit card amount spiral out of control."

So here they are now trying to fix their finances.

But the holidays make it hard to stay on track.

"Some people expect gifts," the mom wrote. "I just don't want it to be too awkward when I hand them homemade cookies. I've tried to lay the groundwork and tell them that we are saving money this year and not to expect too much, but of course the expectation is there anyway. We tried this last year and they were disappointed, and the discussion of our choice of present was frowned upon."

Since the couple is working on paying down the debt, I just focused on the question of what to say when you can't give the way you want.

First, let me address what to do for the children, who are 7 and 20 months.

So, for the baby, you don't need to buy anything, because he'll probably be excited about just opening boxes. When my kids were tiny tots, I looked around for games, toys and stuffed animals that they didn't play with and were buried at the bottom of their toy bins or stashed at the top of their closets. I wrapped up those items and put them under the tree. Seriously, who remembers what they got at 2?

For the 7-year-old, buy her just a few things – with cash. Pick one major thing she wants that isn't too expensive. I also suggested, if they

are having a family get-together, wait and open all the gifts at one time. This way the kids get all their presents at once, which will help you feel less guilty for not giving them a lot of items.

This brings me to the relatives. Own your financial truth. Be honest about the overwhelming amount of debt. You don't have to share specifics, but let folks know you're trying to be financially responsible, and until further notice you can't afford to exchange gifts. You may be surprised how many friends and family members will feel relieved because they, too, are struggling.

There is always the possibility that you'll get push-back, but ignore any efforts to make you feel guilty. You have \$62,000 in credit card debt. This is your priority – not trying to please an adult acting like a child.

Don't let your emotions lead you to derail your commitment to live within your means. Read "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" as a reminder of what's important in the end.

Give yourself the gift of financial stability by staying focused on paying down that debt. Besides, as I tell folks all the time, it should be about your presence, not your presents.

Readers can write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle.singletary@washpost.com. Follow her on Twitter (@SingletaryM) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/MichelleSingletary). Comments and questions are welcome, but due to the volume of mail, personal responses may not be possible.

FFW Corporation announces quarterly cash dividend

Dividend is payable Dec. 31 to shareholders of record on Dec. 17

STAFF REPORT

FFW Corporation, parent corporation of Crossroads Bank, has approved a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.23 per share of common stock. The dividend is payable Dec. 31 to shareholders of record on Dec. 17, according to a press release.

The book value of FFW Corporation stock was \$39.57 per share as of Oct.

31. The last reported trade of stock at the close of business on Nov. 26 was \$44.75 per share and the number of outstanding shares was 1,137,783 as of the same date.

On Oct. 31, the corporation had assets of \$418.8 million and shareholders' equity of \$45.8 million. The Board of FFW Corporation and Crossroads Bank will continue to evaluate the payment of a dividend every quarter.

Crossroads Bank is a wholly-owned subsidiary of FFW Corporation providing an "extensive array of banking

services and a wide range of investments and securities products" through its main office in Wabash and five banking centers located in Columbia City, North Manchester, South Whitley, Syracuse and Peru. The bank provides leasing services at its banking centers and its Fishers leasing and commercial loan office. Insurance products are offered through an affiliated company, Insurance 1 Services. The corporation's stock is traded on the OTC Markets under the symbol "FFWC." For more information, visit www.crossroadsbanking.com.

Here's how to battle 'zombie debt', or time-barred

Let me say this up front. If you borrow money, you should make an honest effort to repay it.

Michelle Singletary



But when life interrupts your ability to handle your liabilities – say, by a job loss or medical crisis – state laws say creditors can't use the courts to chase you forever.

Debt collectors have a limited number of years in which they can sue someone to collect. After the time runs out, certain unpaid open-ended consumer debts such as credit card debt is considered "time-barred." You still owe the money, but at some point your old debt becomes uncollectible through the courts.

The statute of limitations for when a debt is time-barred varies from state to state – anywhere from two to 10 years. If you want to check on the law for your state, the do-it-yourself legal website nolo.com has a good guide. Search on the site for "Civil Statutes of Limitations."

Unscrupulous debt collection companies often try to revive "zombie debt." It's called this because collectors may try and scare you into paying when the debt is time-barred.

Recently, a reader asked me about old debt on two credit cards that totaled nearly \$6,000. The 50-year-old District resident said he used the cards to make ends meet when his Social Security disability income wasn't enough.

"The credit cards became an albatross," he said.

The debt was eventually charged off in 2017, and his

credit score has dipped to 590 as a result. Here's what the reader wanted to know about his zombie debt.

Q: In an effort to improve my credit score, what's the best way to clean up debt that has been charged off?

A: Let me explain first what a charge-off is, because lots of consumers think it means they are in the clear. The lender is charging off the debt as an accounting move to indicate that its value to the creditor is reduced or eliminated and the debt therefore is no longer an asset. A charge-off does not mean you don't still owe the money.

"Unpaid debts, even if written off and even if outside the statute of limitations, can have a negative impact on credit reports," said Ariel Levinson-Waldman, director of Tzedek DC, a nonprofit organization that advocates for the

rights of low-income D.C. residents facing debt-related issues. "Impaired credit can, in turn, harm people's ability to secure rental housing approval, a loan, or even a job."

Negative information such as this stays on your credit report for seven years. But the further you get away from the date of default, the less impact the old debt has on your credit score. Going forward, the best way to improve your score is to pay your bills on

time. You can also try and work out a payment plan or settlement.

Q: If I have enough money to settle for less than the original total, should I reach out and do so?

A: When debts have been written off, it's often sold for two to four pennies on the dollar to third party debt collection firms, Levinson-Waldman points out. As a result, these firms may be willing to settle the debt for a fraction of the principal. "For such settlements,

it is often best to structure it as a lump sum with no ongoing plan and to avoid concerns about restarting the clock or breaching the payment plan," he said. "If the reader can't arrive at a number the creditor will accept, he should just decline to enter an agreement or pay."

Check your local area for nonprofits such as Tzedek DC that provide free advice and legal representation so that you avoid harmful fine print clauses.



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Roberts seems to hold key to case over New York City gun law

BY MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Chief Justice John Roberts appeared Monday to be the key vote in whether the Supreme Court considers expanding gun rights or sidesteps its first case on the issue in nearly 10 years.

The court's dismissal of the case would be a disappointment to gun-rights advocates and a huge relief to gun-control groups. Both sides thought a conservative Supreme Court majority fortified by two appointees of President Donald Trump, Justices Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh, might use the case to expand on landmark decisions from a decade ago that established a right to keep a gun at home for self-defense.

The arguments dealt with a dispute over New York City restrictions on taking licensed, locked and unloaded guns outside the city limits. New York has dropped its transport ban, but only after the high court decided in January to hear the case.

The justices spent most of the hour trying to determine whether anything is left of the case brought by the National Rifle Association's New York affiliate and three city residents, after the change in New York law.

Roberts sought assurances in a handful of questions to the city's lawyer that New York police would not refuse to issue gun licenses to people who have may have violated the old law.

"Would the fact of a violation of the prior law be used against them?" Roberts asked Richard Dearing, the lawyer representing the city.

"It will not. It absolutely will not," Dearing replied, as part of his argument urging the justices to get rid of the case.

The four liberal justices made clear they are likely to vote for dismissal. "So what's left of this case? Petitioners have gotten all the relief they sought," said Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, on the bench for the first time since a recent two-night hospital stay.

Paul Clement, representing the gun owners, said his clients are entitled to an order from a federal court, not just the representations of the city's lawyer. In one example, Clement said it is unclear whether a gun owner headed to a shooting range could stop for coffee or a bathroom break without breaking the law.

His argument appeared to win favor with at least two conservative justices, Samuel Alito and Gorsuch. When Dearing said coffee and rest stops are permissible, they asked about whether a gun owner would be at risk by stopping at his mother's house.

Dearing replied he was less sure about other kinds of stops, but that people could challenge such a restriction in a new case.

Justice Clarence Thomas, who has lamented the court's reluctance to take on gun

cases, asked no questions, as is his custom. Kavanaugh also was silent throughout the arguments, but his record in guns cases includes a dissent when his federal appeals court upheld the District of Columbia's ban on semi-automatic rifles.

"Gun bans and gun regulations that are not longstanding or sufficiently rooted in text, history, and tradition are not consistent with the Second Amendment individual right," Kavanaugh wrote in 2011.

For years, the NRA and its allies have tried to get the court to say more about gun rights, even as mass shootings may have caused the justices to shy away from taking on new disputes over gun limits.

The lawsuit in New York began as a challenge to the city's prohibition on carrying a licensed, locked and unloaded handgun outside the city limits, either to a shooting range or a second

home.

Lower courts upheld the regulation, but the Supreme Court's decision to review the case caused officials at both the city and state level to scramble to find a way to remove the case from the justices' grasp. Not only did the city change its regulation to allow licensed gun owners to transport their weapons to locations outside New York's five boroughs, but the state enacted a law barring cities from imposing the challenged restrictions.

But those moves failed to get the court to dismiss the case.

The city does contend that what it calls its "former rule" did not violate the Constitution, although Dearing conceded that police determined the rule could be repealed without making New York's streets more dangerous.

He added that police would have to "work harder" to verify that people legally have their guns with them.

Rescuers search for girl, 6, missing after truck swept away

TONTO BASIN, Ariz. (AP) — Nine members of an Arizona family, together for the Thanksgiving holiday, were in an oversized military-style truck when they got stuck in a raging creek swollen by intense runoff from a powerful storm.

Four children and two adults got out and were rescued by helicopter, but three children stayed in the truck and it was later swept away.

Rescuers with helicopters, drones, boats, dogs and an army of volunteers searched frantically Sunday for a 6-year-old girl missing since Friday. Her brother and cousin, both 5, were found dead on Saturday.

"We want to bring her home safely to her family," said Lt. Virgil Dodd of Gila County Sheriff's Office. "She needs to come home today, and we're going to do that today."

At dusk Sunday, rescuers said they found a shoe that might belong to the girl. The shoe was about 200 yards

from where the family's vehicle got stuck in the creek.

"There was a shoe in the area where there was some interest in that debris," Lt. Virgil Dodd of Gila County Sheriff's Office told the Arizona Republic. "At this time, we believe that it may belong to the little girl that we're searching for."

More than 100 volunteers gathered near Tonto Basin, a small community northeast of Phoenix, early Sunday to help search for the missing girl, Willa Rawlings, the Republic reported.

"I cannot thank you enough," the girl's uncle, Nathan Sherwood, told the crowd of people ready to help, according to the newspaper. "This is about the only light in this dark situation."

Volunteers trudged in small groups through the muddy brush, toward the creek, to search for the missing girl, who was last seen wearing jeans and a purple jacket.

FRIDAY

Continued from A1

accepted.

"You may bring your skates and skates in a variety of sizes will be provided free of charge," stated the release.

To keep the holiday spirit going on Miami Street, Wabash Marketplace is offering an outdoor Winter Market from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Visit some of your favorite vendors from the Farmers' Market including Hill-n-Dale Farm, Carpenter Creations, Grant Creek Farms and MJ's Farmhouse. New Journey Church will host games and hot chocolate. Parkview Wabash Hospital will have the breastfeeding pod and an opportunity to meet Dr. Jonathan Larsen.

Enjoy live music at Charley Creek Inn and Eclectic Shoppe.

Wabash Marketplace is offering a self-service gift wrap station at Chapman's

Brewing Company for December.

The Wabash County Historical Museum is offering free admission and kids activities and visits with Santa from 5 to 8 p.m.

Madrigal Dinner Theater performances are at the Honeywell Center on Friday and Saturday; reservations required.

Trolley No. 85 will not be available this month.

Payne's Fish and Chips will be on Miami Street and Smash Burgers will be at Chapman's Brewing Co. Other food options include Pizza King, Charley Creek Inn, Market Street Grill, Modoc's Market, Ohh! My Cakes and Downtown Nutrition. The Ice Cream & Candy Shoppe will have s'mores bags, the Wine Shoppe will be featuring spiked hot cocoa, egg nog, wine slushies, and beer flights. Modoc's Market will have a peppermint hot cocoa and hot caramel apple cider.

For more information visit www.wabashmarketplace.org, or call 260-563-0975.

WIZARDS

Continued from A1

eighth show of the tour. Every night there's standing ovations and people want us to come back. We're onto something. I'm not sure what it is yet, but we're at least winning a lot of hearts lately," he said.

'A traveling circus'

The Wizards of Winter is a 12-piece band, but Kelly said they take 22 people with them out on the road. That then swells by another 10 people or so once they get to the theaters for the production set up.

"It's a traveling circus for sure," he said.

Kelly said because they are telling a story through a rock

opera, there isn't much room for improvisation.

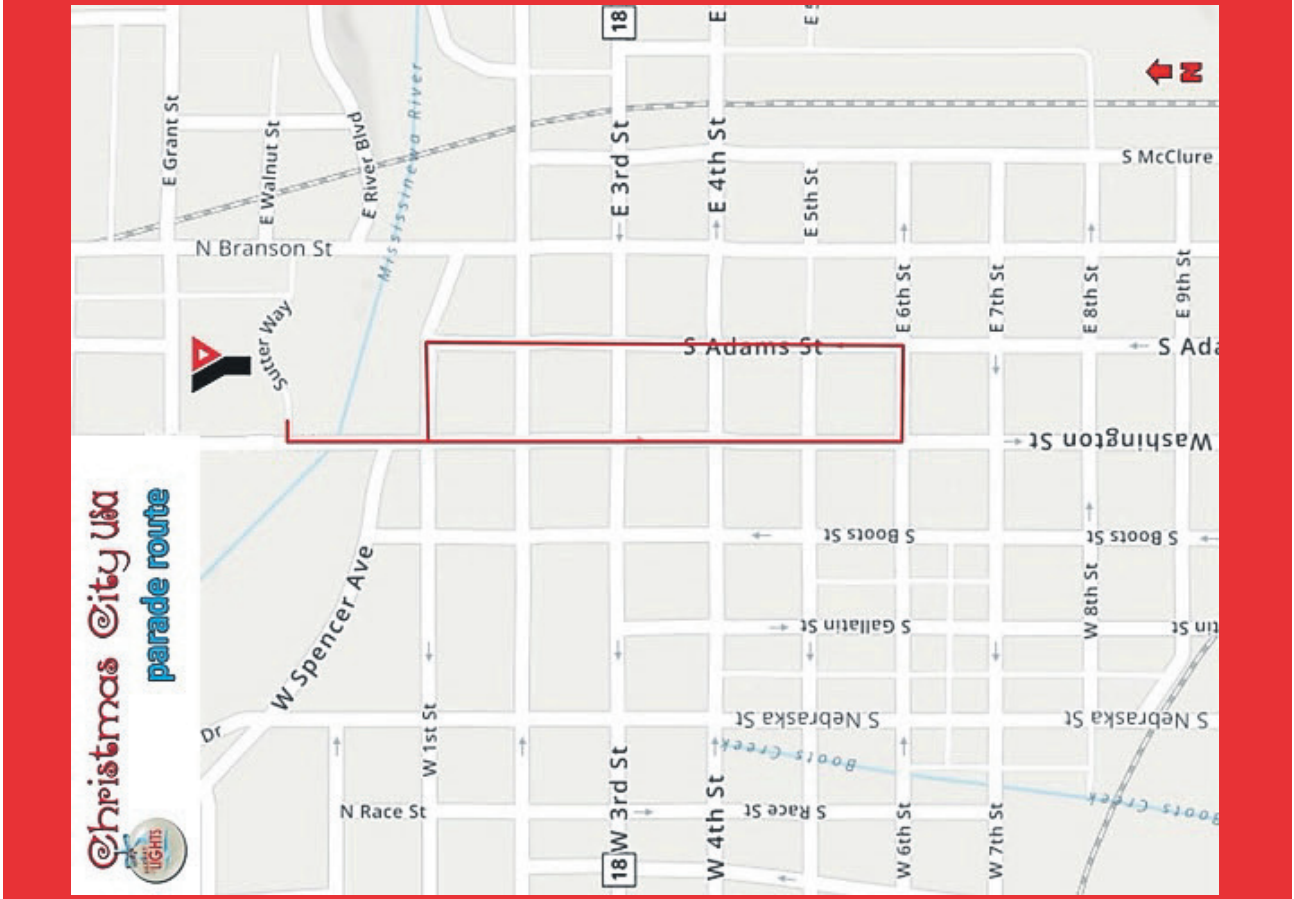
"We play as a band with all the associated potential warts," he said. "There's no prerecorded vocals going behind this. Everything you're seeing is the actual musicians playing on the stage."

Kelly said they keep things fresh by interacting with the audience. He said recording a new album for the first time in four years has helped maintain the spark.

"It's taken us a few years to get this one done just because everybody in this band, other than my wife and I, they play with other national acts and so it's hard to get their time pulled together. We buckled down this year," he said. "All the new songs are going great."



- ### LIST OF EVENTS
- VENDORS/FOOD TRUCKS (5th St. Commons) - NOON - 10 pm
 - EASTBROOK CAROLERS (downtown) - 1-2 pm
 - PICTURES W/SANTA (City Hall) - 12-4 pm
 - PICTURES W/FROSTY & GRINCH (Boston Hill Center) - 12-4 pm
 - SHEIKS, SHEBAS AND SPEAKEASY SANTAS (Marion Civic Theatre) - 4pm & 7:30 pm
 - FAITH IN MOTION - (City Hall) 5:30 - 6 pm
 - FREE FACE PAINTING (Monna Black) (City Hall) - 12 - 4 pm
 - GARY WADE - Balloon Sculptures (Boston Hill Center) - 12 - 4 pm
 - MEXICAN DANCERS (Boston Hill Center) - 5 - 6 pm
 - THE POSSEE (City Hall) - 4:30 - 6:30 pm
 - HARNESS FAMILY BAND (Jerry's Leather Shop Bldg) - 5 pm
 - DRIFTERS (5th Street Commons) - 6:15 - 6:30 pm
 - THE SANTALAND DIARIES (Old I&M Bldg) - Hoosier Shakes (Tickets for sale) - 9pm
 - TROLLEY RIDES (Riverside Community FCU parking lot) - 6 - 10 pm
 - PEOPLE MOVER RIDE'S (CourtHouse) - 5 - 6:30 pm
 - FIRE PIT W/SMORES (5th St. Commons) - ???
 - HOT COCOA - SALVATION ARMY (YMCA & 5th St. Commons) - 6 - 10 pm
 - WALKWAY OF LIGHTS PARADE - 7 pm
 - TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY (Courthouse lawn) - 9 pm
 - TNT FIREWORKS - (directly following tree lighting)



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Area Calendar
Swimming - Manchester at Pioneer, 6 p.m.
Girls basketball - Northfield vs. Maconaquah, 7:45 p.m.

Apaches bounce back for victory
The Wabash boys' basketball team came from behind in the fourth quarter on Saturday for a 58-54 win over Madison-Grant at home. Trenton Daughtry finished with 18 points while Dereck Vogel and Elijah Vander Velden had 12 apiece.

Rich's big night pushes Southwood to win
Behind 32 points from Carson Rich, the Southwood boys' basketball earned an 86-73 win over Cass on the road on Saturday. After leading by just five points going into the final period, Southwood scored 32 points in the fourth. Dawson Filip and Gabe Lloyd finished with 17 and 13 points, respectively.

SEC fines Auburn \$250,000 after fans rush field vs. Alabama

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — The Southeastern Conference has fined Auburn \$250,000 after fans stormed the field celebrating an Iron Bowl victory.
It's the school's fourth violation of the league's policy prohibiting fan access to the field or court. The SEC announced the fine Monday, two days after fans almost completely covered the field at Jordan-Hare Stadium following the 11th-ranked Tigers' 48-45 win over No. 9 Alabama.
Auburn was fined for celebrations after the 2013 Iron Bowl that ended with the "Kick-Six" and after the 2017 upset of No. 1 Alabama that clinched the Southeastern Conference Western Division title.
Fans also stormed the basketball court at Auburn Arena after an upset of Kentucky in 2016.
The SEC fines start at \$50,000 for a first offense and go up to \$250,000 for a third and subsequent violations.

Submit your news

The Plain Dealer is accepting all news, varsity, junior varsity, middle school, elementary school and non-school affiliated recreational sports. To get a brief in the newspaper, please provide final score and any highlights pertaining to the event, including first and last names of participants. Reports must be received by 3:00 p.m. to make it in the following day's edition. Items may be:
E-mailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com.
Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail.
Mailed into Plain Dealer, 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.
Organizations or individuals e-mailing materials should call the sports department to ensure the information was received. The Plain Dealer reserves the right to edit material for length, clarity and/or style, and does not guarantee publication.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



CROSS: Manchester's Weston Hamby dribbles between his legs near the baseline during the second half of Saturday's game against Oak Hill.

Squires stave off rally, earn first win of season

BY JACOB RUDE
sports@wabashplaindealer.com
NORTH MANCHESTER — Mark Underwood challenged his boys' basketball side after a sloppy start to the season on Wednesday. The response played out on its home court on Saturday against visiting Oak Hill.
The Squires trailed only briefly in the opening stages of the game, led by as many as 11 in the second half and survived a spirited rally from the visitors late in the fourth to secure their first win of the season, 53-52.
"We challenged the kids," Underwood said. "Of course, we want to win the County Tournament, win the sectional and win the conference. But before any of that can happen, we feel like the three things we have to do is

outwork every team we play, continue to improve and represent this school and ourselves in a class manner. We did not, in game one, feel like we outworked Bluffton. We felt like they delivered the knockout punch and we just got back on our heels and did not retaliate. That was disappointing.
"We just really challenged the guys to play with heart and play with some guts and to make sure, after the game, to say be able to say we played every bit as hard as the other team did."
Manchester used an 8-2 run in the middle stages of the third period with baskets from Kreedon Krull, Weston Hamby, Max Carter and Thane Creager to open up a 41-30 lead.
A Mason McKinney-

inspired run on either side of the quarter break helped close the gap to 45-43 with the junior forward scoring eight points in that span. Manchester pushed the lead back out to six after a pair of free throws from Austin Underwood and a basket from Creager but Oak Hill had one final push.
Clay McCorkle hit a floater with 1:25 left and Jacob Winger split his free throws to pull the Eagles to within two at 51-49 with 1:10 left. After forcing a turnover, Oak Hill had a chance to tie or take the lead but a baseline jumper hit the back iron, Hamby would eventually collect the ball and would be fouled and Manchester survived on the night.
Kody Dubois buried a three-pointer with seven-

tenths of a second but Oak Hill could not foul before the final buzzer sounded.
"Oak Hill is a very good basketball team," Hunt said. "We had to play really well to beat them. But the guys not only gave a great effort but they improved over last game...and the mental focus and togetherness was so much more evident than in game one."
Hamby finished with 16 points, six of those in the fourth, while Creager had 11 and Carter nine. Manchester again relied heavily on its six rotation players, though Carter Bedke stepped in and knocked down a three-pointer in the second period in his first action this season.
"I think our experience

See SQUIRES / Page B2

Squires start fast, falter down stretch

BY JACOB RUDE
sports@wabashplaindealer.com
NORTH MANCHESTER — Saturday night was a simple tale of two halves between Manchester and Oak Hill's girls' basketball teams. A young, energetic Manchester came out with firing at home, leading for the vast majority of the first two quarters.
But a more experienced Oak Hill side had a stronger rebuttal, outscoring the hosts by eight points in the second half to come from behind for a 40-34 win. The win for the Eagles, though, came with some lessons learned.
"To me, it came down to effort," Oak Hill head coach Todd Law said. "I was not happy with our effort in the first half in any shape or form on either end of the basketball floor. I thought Manchester came out very strong, slapped us in the face and we just sat there and took it. Our kids weren't ready to play. Luckily, we regrouped and came out and made enough plays in the second half and were able to squeak out the win."
The Squires fell behind early but turned turnovers into points, take an 11-10 lead after a four-point play opportunity from Ranissa Shambarger. Manchester would not relinquish the lead, though the guests tied the game on a pair of occasions.
The lead reached its biggest in the second quarter after a three-point play from Makenzy Meyer gave the Squires a 20-15 lead. Abby Shaw would connect on a three-pointer, her third of the half, just before the halftime buzzer to give Oak Hill momentum.
The Eagles used that momentum to quickly take a lead to open up the third with a 14-5 run, capped off with a three-pointer from Audrey Leak to put Oak Hill up 32-25.
"They switched defenses a little bit on us and that kind of threw us for a loop and we tried to force stuff," Manchester head coach Josh Troyer said of the third period. "We made a lot of uncharacteristic passes. I don't what came over us there for a little bit but I think we lost some of that composure. I thought

See FALTER / Page B2

Third-quarter run sends Apaches to win

BY CHUCK LANDIS
clandis@chronicle-tribune.com
FAIRMOUNT — Madison-Grant dictated terms throughout the opening half of its girls' basketball game Friday evening against visiting Wabash. Then, a disturbing trend reappeared.
Wabash seized command with a 10-2 run to begin the third quarter and everything deteriorated very quickly for the Argylls. The Apaches pulled away for a decisive 52-29 victory and for their second win in succession.
The game was tied 17-all at halftime before the Argylls experienced the same rash of turnovers and poor shooting that has plagued them during a four-game losing streak. Wabash won the second half 35-12 and received contributions nearly everyone.
Madison-Grant coach Brandon Bradley lamented the 17 turnovers and 5-of-21 shooting (28.3 percent) in the second half as nothing new. The Argylls (2-4) also have scored less than 30 points in their last four games.
"It was kind of a repeat of the previous Friday against Oak Hill (a 50-22 loss)," Bradley said. "You find out the toughness of a team by how they come out in the third quarter, and right now we have a trend of regressive and being sloppy with the basketball."
Wabash (3-3) was coming off a stretch where it had played its three toughest opponents — Mississinewa, Marion and Warsaw — in succession, before earning a win over Southern Wells on Nov. 23. Yet, coach Matt Stone was disappointed with the effort his team gave in the opening half.
"We looked like a team that hadn't practiced the day before, and certainly we weren't going to practice on

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JUMPER: Wabash's Alivia Short shoots a jumper during Friday's game against Madison-Grant.

SCOTT HUNT/Chronicle-Tribune

See APACHES / Page B2

SCOREBOARD

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

The Indiana Coaches of Girls Sports Association Top 10 basketball teams, with first-place votes in parentheses and previous rankings:

Class 4A				
	W-L	Pts	Prv	
1. Northwestern (7)	7-0	104	1	
2. Lawrence North (1)	8-0	96	2	
3. Crown Point (2)	9-0	86	3	
4. Homestead (1)	5-0	76	4	
5. Fishers	9-0	66	5	
6. Hamilton Southeastern	7-1	53	7	
7. Penn	7-0	52	6	
8. Center Grove	7-1	23	10	
9. Brownsburg	6-2	20	8	
10. Jeffersonville	7-1	15	9	
Others receiving votes: North Central, West Lafayette Harrison.				

Class 3A				
	W-L	Pts	Prv	
1. Gibson Southern (3)	5-0	96	3	
2. Salem (6)	6-0	94	1	
3. Benton Central (2)	6-1	91	2	
4. Norwell	6-1	67	4	
5. Mishawaka Marian	5-1	51	6	
6. Winchester	7-0	46	10	
7. Silver Creek	5-1	34	7	
8. Heritage Christian	3-2	32	5	
9. Evansville Memorial	2-0	16	NR	
10. Danville	5-1	15	8	
Others receiving votes: Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger, Greensburg, Angola, Fort Wayne Bishop Luers, South Bend St. Joseph's, Garrett, West Lafayette, Chardt, Northwood, Washington, Vincennes Lincoln, Fort Wayne Concordia.				

Class 2A				
	W-L	Pts	Prv	
1. Triton Central (10)	8-0	108	1	
2. Vincennes Rivet (1)	6-0	91	4	
3. University	7-0	82	5	
4. Shenandoah	6-0	68	6	
5. Monroe Central	4-0	62	7	
(tie) N. Judson	5-1	62	2	
7. Linton-Stockton	6-2	51	3	
8. Lafayette Cent. Catholic	4-2	17	9	
(tie) Westville	8-0	17	NR	
10. S. Knox	7-1	14	NR	
Others receiving votes: Crawford County, Lapel, South Central Union Mills, Covenant Christian, Eastern Pekin, Providence.				

Class A				
	W-L	Pts	Prv	
1. Loogootee (8)	5-0	102	1	
2. Jac-Cen-Del (1)	5-1	88	2	
3. Tecumseh (1)	2-1	75	3	
4. Oregon-Davis	5-1	73	4	
5. Trinity Lutheran	3-1	66	5	
6. Morgan Twp.	5-1	48	6	
7. Lanesville	8-2	34	7	
8. Kouts	7-1	26	10	
9. Greenwood Christian	3-2	23	8	
10. Pioneer	4-1	15	NR	
Others receiving votes: Orleans, Edinburg, Bethesda Christian, North Miami, Southwestern Shelby, Union City, Springs Valley, Anderson Preparatory.				

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

AP Top 25

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Nov. 30, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. LSU (40)	12-0	1528	1
2. Ohio St. (19)	12-0	1498	2
3. Clemson (3)	12-0	1437	3
4. Georgia	11-1	1356	4
5. Utah	11-1	1275	6
6. Oklahoma	11-1	1257	7
7. Florida	10-2	1135	8
8. Baylor	11-1	1074	11
9. Alabama	10-2	995	5
10. Wisconsin	10-2	971	13
11. Auburn	9-3	957	16
12. Penn St.	10-2	890	12
13. Oregon	10-2	799	14
14. Notre Dame	10-2	734	15
15. Minnesota	10-2	683	9
16. Memphis	11-1	615	17
17. Michigan	9-3	603	10
18. Iowa	9-3	563	20
19. Boise St.	11-1	437	19
20. Appalachian St.	11-1	288	12
21. Cincinnati	10-2	237	18
22. Virginia	9-3	231	NR
23. Navy	9-2	216	24
24. Southern Cal	8-4	157	25
25. Air Force	10-2	65	NR
Others receiving votes: SMU 50, Oklahoma St. 36, Kansas St. 36, UCF 6, Virginia Tech 6, Iowa St. 5, Arizona St. 4, California 3, Washington 2, North Dakota St. 1.			

NOTRE DAME 45, STANFORD 24

Notre Dame	7	14	7	17	—	45
Stanford	10	7	0	7	—	24

First Quarter

STA-Tremayne 5 pass from Mills (Sanborn kick), 11:26
ND-T.Jones 16 pass from Book (Doerer kick), 9:54
STA-FG Sanborn 24, 1:35

Second Quarter

STA-Wilson 27 pass from Mills (Sanborn kick), 9:29
ND-Tremble 6 pass from Book (Doerer kick), 3:01
ND-Claypool 41 pass from Book (Doerer kick), 1:20

Third Quarter

ND-Claypool 8 pass from Book (Doerer kick), 3:10

Fourth Quarter

ND-FG Doerer 42, 13:36
ND-Flemister 1 run (Doerer kick), 5:10
STA-Scarlett 9 run (Sanborn kick), 1:54
ND-Kareem 0 fumble return (Doerer kick), :41 A-37,391.

	ND	STA
First downs	24	26
Rushes-yards	37-190	28-118
Passing	255	276
Comp-Att-Int	17-30-0	28-47-0
Return Yards	101	107
Punts-Avg.	6-37.33	7-40.42
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-2
Penalties-Yards	11-95	6-56
Time of Possession	29:57	30:03

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING-Notre Dame, T.Jones 14-50, Lenzy 4-48, Armstrong 3-44, Book 8-29, Flemister 5-21, Smith 3-minus 2), Stanford, Scarlett 13-43, Mills 7-36, A.Jones 7-33, Peat 1-6.
PASSING-Notre Dame, Book 17-30-0-255, Stanford, Mills 28-46-0-276, (Team) 0-1-0-0.
RECEIVING-Notre Dame, Knel 5-77, Claypool 3-63, Lenzy 2-48, T.Jones 2-40, Tremble 2-16, Armstrong 2-3, Keys 1-8, Stanford, Wilson 10-96, Fehoko 6-63, Parkinson 3-37, Scarlett 3-25, St. Brown 3-14, A.Jones 1-24, Harrington 1-12, Tremayne 1-5.
MISSED FIELD GOALS-Notre Dame, Doerer 43.

INDIANA 44, PURDUE 41 (2OT)

Indiana	7	14	7	3	7	—	44
Purdue	0	10	7	14	7	—	41

First Quarter

IU-Philyor 8 pass from Ramsey (Justus kick), 5:38

Second Quarter

IU-Ramsey 1 run (Justus kick), 12:39
PUR-FG Dellinger 20, 9:52
PUR-FG Hopkins 72 pass from O'Connell (Dellinger kick), 7:04
IU-James 3 run (Justus kick), 3:20

Third Quarter

IU-Philyor 37 pass from Ramsey (Justus kick), 3:30
PUR-Horvath 1 run (Dellinger kick), 1:44

Fourth Quarter
PUR-Horvath 1 run (pass failed), 1:44
IU-FG Campbell 41, 5:08
PUR-Bell 20 pass from O'Connell (Hopkins pass from O'Connell), 2:48

First Overtime

IU-Westbrook 14 pass from Ramsey (Justus kick), :00
PUR-Hopkins 6 pass from O'Connell (Dellinger kick), :00

Second Overtime

PUR-FG Dellinger 34, :00
IU-Ramsey 1 run, :00
A-55,338.

	IU	PUR
First downs	27	28
Rushes-yards	50-185	33-181
Passing	337	408
Comp-Att-Int	23-39-0	28-50-1
Return Yards	57	51
Punts-Avg.	3-38.66	1-34.0
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	9-84	1-15
Time of Possession	38:05	21:55

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING-Indiana, James 22-118, Ramsey 19-42, R.Walker 9-25, Purdue, Horvath 23-164, Doerue 5-22, Bell 1-2, Anthrope 1-minus 1), O'Connell 3-minus 6).
PASSING-Indiana, Ramsey 23-39-0-337, Purdue, O'Connell 28-49-1-248, (Team) 0-1-0-0.
RECEIVING-Indiana, Philyor 8-138, Westbrook 5-88, Marshall 4-49, Hendershot 4-49,

ON THE AIR

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

(MEN'S)

6:30 p.m.

FS1: St. Peter's at St. John's

7 p.m.

CBSSN: Vermont at Cincinnati

ESPN2: Big Ten/ACC

Challenge: Iowa at Syracuse

ESPNu: Big Ten/ACC

Challenge: Northwestern at Boston College

SEC: Butler at Mississippi

7:30 p.m.

ESPN: Big Ten/ACC Challenge: Michigan at Louisville

8:30 p.m.

FS1: Oral Roberts at Creighton

9 p.m.

CBSSN: Bradley at Memphis

ESPN2: Big Ten/ACC

Challenge: Florida State at Indiana

ESPNu: Big Ten/ACC

Challenge: Rutgers at Pittsburgh

SEC: New Orleans at Louisiana State

9:30 p.m.

ESPN: Big Ten/ACC Challenge: Duke at Michigan St

11 p.m.

CBSSN: Arizona State at San Francisco

NBA BASKETBALL

7:30 p.m.

TNT: Dallas at New Orleans

10 p.m.

TNT: Portland at LA Clippers

NHL HOCKEY

8 p.m.

NBCSN : Tampa Bay at Nashville

SOCCER (MEN'S)

2:30 p.m.

NBCSN: Premier League: Manchester City at Burnley

R.Walker 1-10, Ellis 1-3, Purdue, Bell 9-136, Hopkins 8-142, Anthrope 4-62, Horvath 4-24, Wright 2-22, Doerue 1-22.
MISSED FIELD GOALS-Indiana, Justus 40, Justus 43, Justus 26, Purdue, Dellinger 39.

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	10	2	0	.833	322	145
Buffalo	9	3	0	.750	257	188
N.Y. Jets	4	8	0	.333	204	280
Miami	3	9	0	.250	200	377

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	8	4	0	.667	293	271
Tennessee	7	5	0	.583	276	234
Indianapolis	6	6	0	.500	261	257
Jacksonville	4	8	0	.333	220	292

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	10	2	0	.833	406	219
Pittsburgh	7	5	0	.583	336	225
Cleveland	5	7	0	.417	246	272
Cincinnati	1	11	0	.083	179	298

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	8	4	0	.667	348	265
Oakland	6	6	0	.500	237	324
Denver	4	8	0	.333	198	237
L.A. Chargers	4	8	0	.333	244	241

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	5	6	0	.500	310	236
Philadelphia	6	7	0	.417	274	284
Washington	3	9	0	.250	173	290
N.Y. Giants	2	10	0	.167	230	339

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New Orleans	10	2	0	.833	298	248
Tampa Bay	5	7	0	.417	340	346
Carolina	5	7	0	.417	280	320
Atlanta	3	9	0	.250	260	323

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	9	3	0	.750	289	255
Minnesota	8	3	0	.727	289	205
Chicago	6	6	0	.500	212	208
Detroit	3	8	1	.292	280	315

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Francisco	10	2	0	.833	349	183
Seattle	9	2	0	.818	292	263
L.A. Rams	7	5	0	.583	283	250
Arizona	3	8	1	.292	255	351

y-clinched division

Thursday's Games

Chicago 24, Detroit 20
Buffalo 26, Dallas 15
New Orleans 26, Atlanta 18
Sunday's Games
Baltimore 20, San Francisco 17
Green Bay 31, N.Y. Giants 13
Tennessee 31, Indianapolis 17
Pittsburgh 20, Cleveland 13
Cincinnati 22, N.Y. Jets 6
Tampa Bay 28, Jacksonville 11
Miami 37, Philadelphia 31
Washington 29, Carolina 21
L.A. Rams 34, Arizona 7
Kansas City 40, Oakland 9
Denver 23, L.A. Chargers 20
Houston 28, New England 22

Monday's Game

Minnesota at Seattle, 8:15 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 5
Sunday, Dec. 8
Washington at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
Carolina at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Denver at Houston, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Miami at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
L.A. Chargers at Jacksonville, 4:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Arizona, 4:25 p.m.
Tennessee at Oakland, 4:25 p.m.
Kansas City at New England, 4:25 p.m.
Seattle at L.A. Rams, 8:20 p.m.

TITANS 31, COLTS 17

Tennessee	7	0	10	14	—	31
Indianapolis	7	3	7	0	—	17

First Quarter

Ind-Doyle 21 pass from Brissett (Vinatieri kick), 11:03.
Ten-Humphries 13 pass from Tannehill (Succop kick), 5:05.

Second Quarter

Ind-FG Vinatieri 28, 6:07.
Ind-Hines 1 run (Vinatieri kick), 10:23.
Ten-Henry 13 run (Succop kick), 5:52.
Ten-FG Succop 31, 4:26.

Fourth Quarter

Ten-T.Smith 63 blocked field goal return (Succop kick), 5:02.
Ten-Raymond 40 pass from Tannehill (Succop kick), 3:02.
A-60,361.

	Ten	Ind
First downs	15	22
Total Net Yards	292	391
Rushes-yards	30-154	24-82
Passing	138	309
Punt Returns	2-8	2-32
Kickoff Returns	0-0	1-15
Interceptions Ret.	2-37	0-0
Comp-Att-Int	17-22-0	25-40-2
Sacked-Yards Lost	6-44	3-10
Punts	5-48.8	3-49.3

NFL COMMENTARY

Parity: The meek Bengals, Dolphins, Redskins shall win

BY BARRY WILNER

AP Pro Football Writer

And the meek shall inherit the NFL fields.

At least in Week 13, that is.

It's unlikely that anyone in Las Vegas or wherever sports betting is allowed these days put money on a parlay of the Bengals, Redskins and Dolphins winning Sunday. They were a combined 4-29 heading into the weekend and appeared like the only contenders for the top spot in next April's draft.

Now, with their eight-game skid, the Giants might wind up with the inside track to starting off the draft, particularly if the Bengals again perform anything like they did in dismantling the, well, bungling Jets 22-6. Of all the tail enders in action Sunday,

the Giants were the only also-ran to get run over, by Green Bay at a snowy Meadowlands.

Cincinnati had lost 13 in a row dating to last season, 11 of those in 2019 under new coach Zac Taylor. It was the flat, unprepared Jets — coming off a huge upset of Oakland no less — who looked like the team searching for its first victory, though.

Of course, the Jets also handed a winless Miami its first victory this season, becoming the first franchise to lose to opponents with at least an 0-7 record twice in the same year.

With Andy Dalton reinserted at quarterback after a failed experiment with rookie Ryan Finley, it was all Cincinnati.

“How do I feel? I can't even describe it. ... It's emotional,” Taylor said. “You go through it with all of these guys, and to finally get it, it feels really good. ... Now the pressure is off of you a little bit.”

That was a classic example of a desperate team taking advantage of an opponent that never seemed to have its game face on.

That was not so much the case in Miami; the Dolphins have been competitive for a month and now have won three of five. That they fell behind by 14 points to the supposedly playoff-contending Eagles, then stormed back in a tribute to their resolve. The sort of resolve few teams “tanking” the season for a high draft selection possess.

Sure, they needed a trick play in which holder Matt Haack threw an underhand 1-yard pass to place-kicker Jason Sanders on a fake field goal, sort of. But the Dolphins never were intimidated, something bottom-level teams usually are when they fall into big holes.

And they got win No. 3 in great part because of that.

“This team knows how to deal with adversity,” said rookie coach Brian Flores. “We're just going to keep swinging.”

They might have knocked out the Eagles. Philadelphia (5-7) has lost three in a row and will likely rue this fiasco if it falls short of equally mediocre Dallas in the NFC East.

That division also houses

Washington, which has won two in a row to get to 3-9. When Jay Gruden was fired in October after five losses to begin the season, the Redskins had no fire, no true starting quarterback and, seemingly, no plan.

They're hardly ablaze now, but there's a bit of progress in DC, which has to be encouraging for Redskins fans who haven't felt much of that since Joe Gibbs' days. Gibbs' first go-around days.

Interim coach Bill Callahan probably won't be considered for the full-time gig as owner Daniel Snyder searches for a bigger name. Still, Callahan has instilled something with this team that could work as a foundation for future success.

“I think that we've got

good veteran leadership and I think with any team anyone can lead it,” Callahan said. “The way you come in the building, how you prepare, how you practice, how you support each other. I've mentioned that many times to the team. It's not one guy, it's not one player with a C on his chest, anyone can lead, and that's the beauty of leadership.”

There's not much beauty to behold with the Bengals, Dolphins or Redskins. Any of the three is capable of dropping its final four games and securing that top draft spot.

However, for one given Sunday, Cincinnati, Miami and Washington gave it to opponents. Who would have called that?

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Ramsey helps Hoosiers reclaim Bucket in 2OT

BY MICHAEL MAROT

AP Sports Writer

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Indiana Hoosiers quarterback Peyton Ramsey opened this season on the bench.

He closed it out Saturday by getting mobbed in the back of the end zone.

After throwing his third touchdown pass in the first overtime, Ramsey's second 1-yard scoring run sent the Hoosiers home with a thrilling 44-41 double overtime victory at Purdue — and the Old Oaken Bucket.

“Those are the kinds of things you dream about, making big plays in big games,” the junior said. “Nerve-wracking, obviously, in overtime but it was awesome just to celebrate with those guys out there.”

Fulfilling, too, given the circumstances.

In August, Ramsey lost the starting job to redshirt freshman Michael Penix Jr. But as Penix battled injuries throughout the season, Ramsey remained locked and loaded as he led the Hoosiers to one achievement after another.

Now, thanks largely to Ramsey's high-percentage throws and minimal mistakes, Indiana has its first eight-win season since 1993, its first winning record in Big Ten play since 1993 and the Bucket for the first time since 2016.

“Finally getting the win here, it's awesome. You can't really put it into words,” Ramsey said, remembering the Hoosiers (8-4, 5-4) had been eliminated from bowl contention each of the past two years in the Bucket game.

The impressive numbers didn't illustrate just how well Ramsey played, either. He was 23 of 39 for 337 yards and ran 19 times for 42 yards, but Ramsey turned the game with a series of clutch plays — even after Indiana couldn't pull away after taking a 28-10 lead late in the third quarter.

So, after watching the Boilermakers (4-8, 3-6) rally to force overtime on a 2-point conversion pass from Aidan O'Connell to Brycen Hopkins that tied the score at 31 with 2:48 left in regulation, Ramsey wasted no time getting back to work. He converted third-and-7 with an 11-yard completion in the first overtime then gave Indiana the lead with a 14-yard TD pass to Nick Westbrook on third-and-13.

And after Purdue got a crazy bounce off Hopkins'

knee, O'Connell tied it with a 6-yard scoring pass to Hopkins on fourth-and-goal.

J.D. Dellinger gave Purdue a 41-38 lead with a 34-yard field goal in the second overtime, but Ramsey made Purdue pay again. This time, he threw a 14-yard pass to Peyton Hendershot on third-and-10, hurried the Hoosiers to the line of scrimmage, called his own number and scored from 1 yard out for the Bucket-clinching win.

THE TAKEAWAY

Purdue: A four-win season certainly was not what the Boilermakers envisioned. But when starting quarterback Elijah Sindelar and All-America receiver Rondale Moore were injured on the same play in the Big Ten opener, the whole season changed.

BACKING IT UP

Indiana's leading rusher, Stevie Scott III, missed the game for Indiana after hurting his leg last weekend and Purdue used Zander Horvath in the feature role for the first time this year.

Horvath and Indiana's Sampson James both delivered with the best games of their careers.

Horvath ran 23 times for 164 yards and two scores, becoming the Boilermakers' only 100-yard rusher in 2019. He also lost one fumble.

James, who came into the game with 90 yards rushing this season, had 22 carries for 118 yards and one TD before leaving the game with an injured left ankle early in the fourth quarter.

STAT SHEET

Indiana: Whop Philyor had eight receptions for 138 yards and two TDs. ... The Hoosiers forced two turnovers but gave up 21 points in the final 17 minutes of regulation. Indiana has topped the 30-point mark in nine games this season, tying the school record. ... Logan Justus missed three field goals after coming into the game 9 for 9.

Purdue: O'Connell was 28 of 49 with 408 yards, three TDs and one interception. ... David Bell had nine catches for 136 yards and one score. Hopkins caught eight passes for 142 yards and two TDs. ... The Bucket Game has been decided in overtime twice, both at West Lafayette and the Hoosiers won both times.

BY DOUG FEINBERG

AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK — Tara VanDerveer and Stanford are No. 1 for the first time in seven years.

The Cardinal moved up two spots after a weekend that saw previous No. 1 Oregon and No. 2 Baylor both lose on Saturday. It was only the third time since the Top 25 became a writers' poll before the 1994-95 season that the top two teams lost on the same day.

Stanford received 23 of 30 first-place votes from the national media panel on Monday. The team was last No. 1 for six weeks in 2012.

“We've had a real good start,” VanDerveer said after beating No. 10 Mississippi State to win a tournament in Canada over the weekend. “I think, maybe, it would be a positive thing in terms of motivating our team to continue to work hard and get better. You hope that it wouldn't have people be complacent.”

The Hall of Fame coach knows there is already “a pretty big target on (Stanford's) back” because of its ranking and storied history.

“I don't know that it would change

much, honestly,” she said. “I just go with the flow. Whatever people vote, I just go with it. I'm just trying to focus on our team — and not the periphery stuff.”

Louisville jumped up six spots to No. 2 after knocking off Oregon, which fell to third. The Cardinals got five first-place votes. UConn, which was the only top-10 team that didn't play over the holiday weekend, received the other two first-place votes and remained No. 4.

Oregon State moved up to No. 5. South Carolina and Baylor were Nos. 6 and 7. The Gamecocks beat the then-No. 2 Lady Bears in the Paradise Jam tournament.

Florida State, Maryland and Mississippi State rounded out the first 10 teams in the poll.

Missouri State entered the Top 25 for the first time since 2004, coming in at No. 22.

The Lady Bears had a two-week run in the poll 15 years ago.

“It's a great accomplishment being a mid-major and getting recognized in the AP poll,” first-year Missouri State coach Amaka Agugua-Hamilton

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

SEC contrast: LSU's Burrow, Georgia's Fromm strengths differ

BY CHARLES ODUM

AP Sports Writer

ATHENS, Ga. — Joe Burrow and Jake Fromm bring contrasting strengths to Saturday's Southeastern Conference championship game.

Burrow has been a nightmare match-up for defenses with the ball in his hands for No. 1 LSU.

Fromm, often described as a game manager, wins by making the best decisions to put the ball in other players' hands for No. 4 Georgia.

Burrow bolstered his status as a Heisman Trophy favorite by passing for 352 yards and three touchdowns as LSU (12-0, No. 2 College Football Playoff) capped its perfect regular season with last week's 50-7 win over Texas A&M.

Burrow, the SEC's leader in passing yards and total offense, is dangerous as a runner and passer. He's also important as a leader.

“Joe has the ‘it’ factor,” LSU coach Ed Orgeron said Monday. “He has it. He walks on the field, he has it. He wants the ball in his hands. He wants to make the play.”

Fromm matched his career high with four TD passes last week as Georgia (11-1, No. 4 CFP) rolled to a 52-7 win over Georgia Tech. Even in the run-away win, it was the fourth straight game in which Fromm failed to complete half of his passes.

Orgeron said he couldn't explain Fromm's slump.

“I do know this. He's a winner,”

Orgeron said. “I think he's a fantastic young man. He's a leader. They believe in him at Georgia and he's won a lot of games. That tells you a lot about a quarterback.”

Indeed, Fromm's most impressive statistic is his 34-6 record as a starter. Fromm can't match Burrow's passing numbers, but the edge for the Georgia junior may be his big-game experience.

Fromm will make his third straight start in the SEC championship game, following a win over Auburn in 2017 and a loss to Alabama last year.

LSU safety JaCoby Stevens said Fromm is “basically a pro type quarterback in the backfield. He's very mature in his decision-making. He can make throws that a lot of quarterbacks in college football can't make.”

Led by Burrow and running back Clyde Edwards-Helaire, LSU has found more balance on offense.

“I think the difference between us this year and last year is we're kind of throwing the ball to open up the run, and Clyde and those O-linemen are taking advantage,” Burrow said, adding he believes Edwards-Helaire “is the best back in the country.”

Georgia's hopes of beating LSU and winning its second SEC title in the last three years under coach Kirby Smart may rest on Fromm's ability to shake out of the passing slump.

Unfortunately for the Bulldogs, Fromm's season-long adjustment to changes at wide receiver continues.

said. “We had a goal of doing that, get ranked and gain more respect. We've got to stay there and not get complacent or satisfied.”

Michigan and LSU also were ranked, at Nos. 24 and 25. South Florida, Syracuse and West Virginia all fell out of the poll.

VanDerveer will have a few weeks to enjoy the top spot; the Cardinal are on a break for exams until facing Ohio State on Dec. 15.

Here are a few other tidbits from the poll:

MOVING ON UP: With its win over South Carolina in the Paradise Jam tournament, Indiana climbed three spots to No. 14. The Hoosiers did suffer their first loss of the year, falling to Baylor in a tight game in the same tournament. Before this season, Indiana's best ranking was 22nd in 2014.

END OF A RUN: Syracuse had been ranked for 31 consecutive weeks before falling out on Monday. That's the longest run in school history. The Orange's three losses have come against Oregon, Stanford and Green Bay.

Freshman George Pickens will be suspended for the first half as punishment for his ejection for fighting in the second half against Georgia Tech. Pickens is tied for the team lead in receptions with Lawrence Cager, who won't play following ankle surgery last week.

Smart said the “biggest difference” for Fromm this season has been his receivers.

“There's not been a level of consistency with the perimeter skill that there probably was last year,” Smart said.

Fromm has thrown a combined five touchdown passes with no interceptions in the last two SEC championship games.

One year ago, Fromm outplayed Alabama's Tua Tagovailoa in the SEC title game, throwing for 301 yards and three touchdowns. Jalen Hurts entered the game to lead Alabama to a 35-28 win over the Bulldogs.

Fromm threw for two touchdowns in Georgia's 28-7 win over Auburn for the 2017 SEC championship.

Georgia has averaged almost 33 points per game with first-year offensive coordinator James Coley. It's good production but well below LSU's league-leading average of 48.7.

“For us, I think it's just getting the whole unit to buy into what we're trying to do as an offense,” Fromm said Monday, adding “... it's all about all 11 guys moving in the same direction.”

there next year.”

France Football magazine has been awarding the Ballon d'Or since 1956 and created a women's award for the first time last year when Norway's Ada Hegerberg won it. Hegerberg was fourth this time. Lucy Bronze of England was second, and Alex Morgan third.

Messi, U.S. captain Rapinoe win Ballon d'Or awards

BY SAMUEL PETREQUIN

AP Sports Writer

After becoming the first six-time winner of the Ballon d'Or, Lionel Messi said he's far from finished.

“I hope to continue for a long time,” Messi said on Monday in Paris from behind a row of the trophies which honor the world's best

soccer player.

“I realize that I am very lucky, even if, one day, retirement will come. It will be difficult. But I still have a lot of good years ahead of me. Time goes by very quickly, so I want to enjoy football and my family.”

While the 32-year-old Messi won his sixth Ballon

d'Or, United States captain Megan Rapinoe won her first.

“I can't believe I'm the one winning in this field, it's been an incredible year,” Rapinoe said in a recorded video message during the ceremony at the lavish Theatre du Chatelet.

Messi has received the

Ballon d'Or previously in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2015.

Liverpool defender Virgil van Dijk was second in the polling this year, followed by Cristiano Ronaldo, who shared the record of five Ballon d'Ors with Messi until Monday.

Rapinoe won the women's

Ballon d'Or for leading the United States to World Cup glory in July. She scored six goals in the championship, earning her the Golden Boot as the top scorer and the Golden Ball as the top player.

“I'm so sad I can't make it tonight,” Rapinoe said on video. “I'll do my best to get

Woman is reluctant to tell fiance about new religion

DEAR ABBY: I am a woman in my 30s with a good head on my shoulders, but I have a dilemma. I recently became Wiccan, and I'm hiding my new religion from my fiance.

I was raised Protestant but have drifted away from Christianity. My fiance was raised Catholic but no longer practices. He's not actively involved in any religion, but I'm worried about how he will react to learning that I'm now a "witch," which is just a broad term for anyone who follows the Wiccan spiritual path. I don't want him to think I've lost my mind, but I also can't keep hiding my beliefs from him. Secrets are never a positive thing in a relationship, but I'm worried about how this news will be received. Please help. — West Virginia Wiccan

DEAR WICCAN: I agree this isn't a secret you should keep. If it were me, I would start disclosing the information slowly, sharing Wiccan literature, telling him I found it fascinating, and sharing a few of the principles with him. Refrain from hitting him over the head with an announcement of your conversion and it will be less shocking.

DEAR ABBY: I have a new boss. He is a very nice man. With the Christmas season approaching, how do I communicate to him that I do not want to exchange gifts? I don't want him to feel obligated to give me anything. It may be presumptuous of me to think he may want to. I believe this is his first supervisory position, and he may not even think about gifts.

We have very little contact. I have been the receptionist for our building for many years and do not require much supervision. We are in different parts of the building, and he stops by occasionally to see how I'm doing. My previous boss, a woman I reported to for many years, and I would exchange gifts because we were friends. — Cordial In Texas

DEAR CORDIAL: I do not recommend mentioning gifts to your new boss. It is entirely possible that he won't be gifting you anything this Christmas. However, on the chance that he might, keep a little something in your desk drawer just in case. A small, pre-packaged fruitcake might be nice. You can always use it as a doorstop or a hockey puck if he doesn't drop by with a gift in hand.

DEAR ABBY: Why do women stop having sex after marriage? This is my second marriage. We have been married two years, and to date we have had sex three times. Before marriage we had a great sex life, but the day I said "I do" it stopped. I'm not the only man who is faced with this problem. — Need An Answer

DEAR NEED: Something is wrong with this picture. Not all women stop having sex after marriage. The two of you are long overdue for a frank conversation because this isn't fair to you. Could your wife's lack of interest be medical or emotional? Do you get along otherwise? Did this happen with your first wife, too? If the answer to that question is yes, your technique may need some polishing, or your wives may not have enjoyed sex before or after your weddings.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear Abby

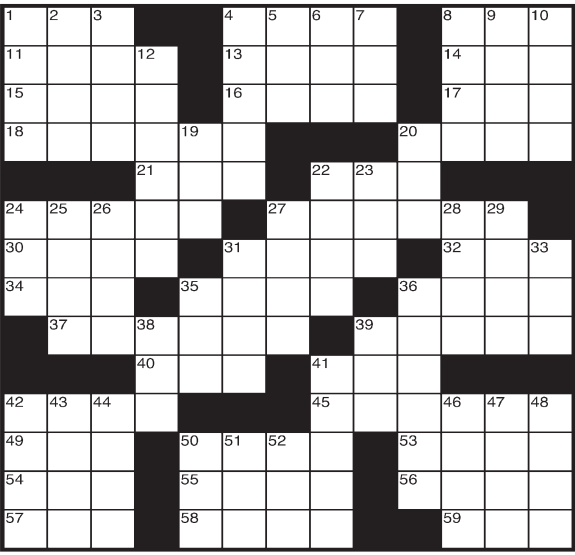


CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Label
 - 4 Mr. Brubeck
 - 8 Teahouse attire
 - 11 Alice's chronicler
 - 13 17th state
 - 14 — Wiedersehen
 - 15 Deceives
 - 16 Tasty tubers
 - 17 Many mins.
 - 18 Scrub
 - 20 Coupe, e.g.
 - 21 Livy's hello
 - 22 Soft drink
 - 24 Veld grazer
 - 27 Ornate
 - 30 Unlucky time
 - 31 Swell chap
 - 32 Eggs
 - 34 Buddy
 - 35 Icicle locale
 - 36 Pour forth
 - 37 Rain forest parrots
 - 39 Exchange
 - 40 Puffin's kin
 - 41 Radio hobbyist
 - 42 Sharp rival
 - 45 Labor groups
- DOWN**
- 1 Chalky mineral
 - 2 Verdi number
 - 3 Narrow valley
 - 4 Sherlock Holmes creator
 - 5 Caught ya!
 - 6 Spirit
 - 7 Goddess of dawn
 - 8 Honolulu's island
 - 9 Mr. Bacharach
 - 10 In that case (2 wds.)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

OR	B	S	A	L	T	C	O	D	Y	
M	E	L	C	L	I	O	A	C	R	E
E	V	A	A	L	P	O	S	T	A	T
G	E	N	T	R	I	T	A	T	A	M
A	L	C	O	A	M	S	G			
		A	B	J	E	C	T	O	A	R
P	O	D	S	A	P	E	I	N	I	D
A	B	E	T	R	I	D	I	S	M	S
Z	I	G	A	S	C	E	N	D		
		R	E	B	A	E	R	I	E	
S	P	A	R	S	E	A	P	R	O	N
L	A	D	E	D	R	I	P	A	D	S
A	L	E	C	N	O	D	E	R	I	A
G	I	S	T	A	W	E	D	S	A	Y



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

	6	9	3		5	1		8
			2			4	3	
		3	1	8				5
1						3	7	
9		7	4	5	6	2		1
	8	2						9
8				3	2	6		
	4	6			1			
3		5	6		4	8	1	

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How to play:

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

2	8	6	1	3	9	5	4	7
9	5	3	8	4	7	1	6	2
1	7	4	5	6	2	9	3	8
5	6	8	7	9	4	3	2	1
4	9	1	2	5	3	8	7	6
7	3	2	6	8	1	4	9	5
8	2	9	3	1	6	7	5	4
3	1	7	4	2	5	6	8	9
6	4	5	9	7	8	2	1	3

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MAFER

GSRUH

NHUBCR

POYCML

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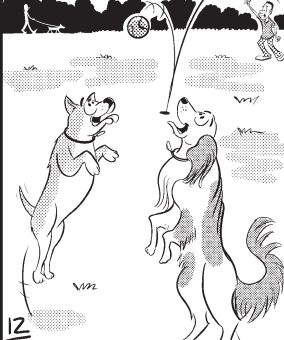
Ans. here:

FOYER ABIDE STIGMA SHIFTY

Answer: Can most people correctly pronounce the name of Iceland's capital? — IT'S HARD TO SAY

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



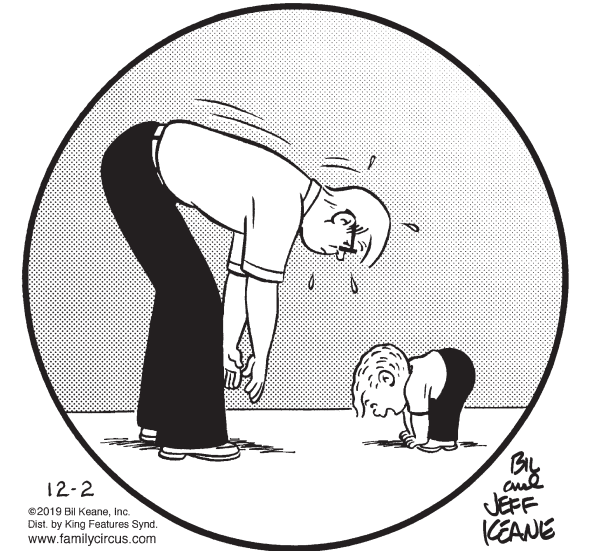
WHEN BOTH DOGS WENT AFTER THE BALL AT THE SAME TIME, THE BALL WAS ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

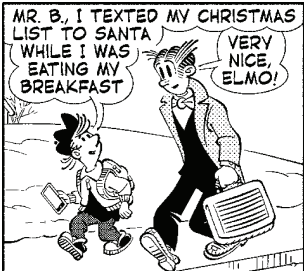


“Watch, Daddy. I can touch my toes really easily.”

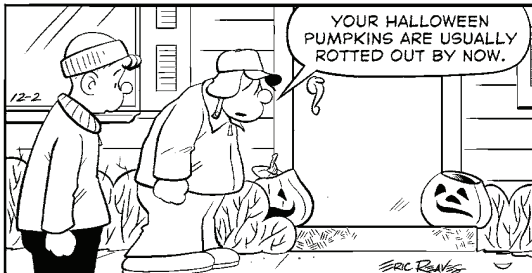
BEETLE BAILEY



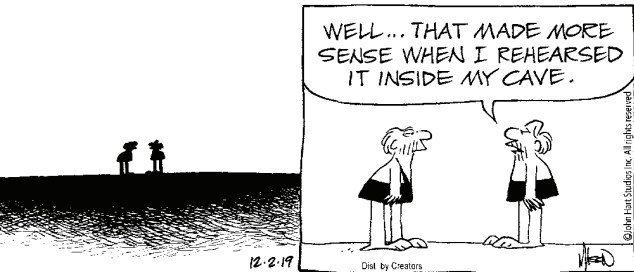
BLONDIE



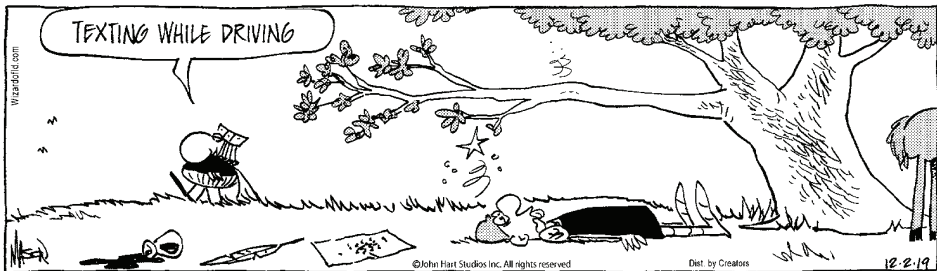
HI & LOIS



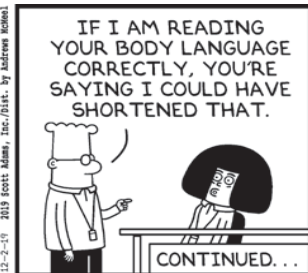
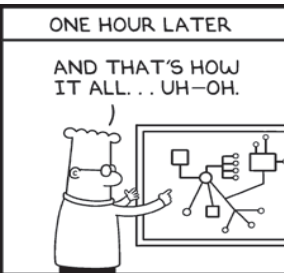
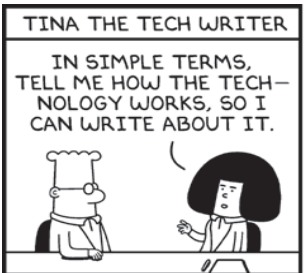
BC



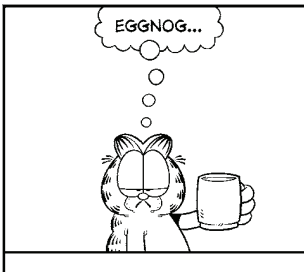
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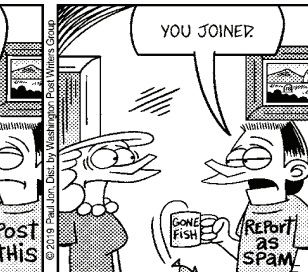
DILBERT



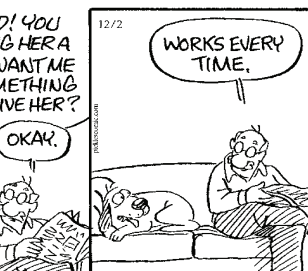
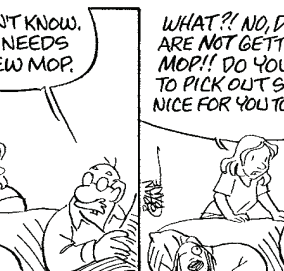
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



God is the Landowner of Heaven, earth, and the universe

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: What is the difference between man's wisdom and God's wisdom? -- W.S.

A: The eighth chapter of Proverbs is deep and wide because it is the voice of wisdom speaking to our hearts. It is the Lord Jesus Himself gathering up His eternal attributes that call out to us with His understanding, truth, righteousness, knowledge and instruction, prudence and discretion, reverence, counsel, strength, love, riches and honor, justice, rejoicing, blessing, wisdom, and eternal life. This is what Heaven is and will be forever.

God is the Landowner of Heaven, earth, and the whole universe, and He is going to share all of it with His people. No earthly court, no Wall

Street investor, no astute accountant could ever calculate the extent of God's estate, for it is priceless and without limit. Jesus told His disciples, "And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom" (Luke 22:29-30).

John wrote about the wonderful aspects of Heaven in the book of Revelation. Yes, there is much mystery and untold wonder and glory. But do not miss this truth: the door to Heaven is open for you. The

Bible says, "Behold, a door standing open in heaven" (Revelation 4:1). My friend, that door is the Lord Jesus Christ. If you do not open the door to your heart here on earth, you will never be able to walk through the door that is standing open in Heaven. Do not miss spending eternity in the "house of the Lord" (Psalm 23:6). The day we step through the gates of splendor, we will be free from sin, and we will enjoy the marvelous joy of being in the presence of the One who is Redeemer, Savior, and Lord.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"HORK'W WXIIPWKV BP ZK UZPXB
SUNDGJ BFK IUBF U HDBBHK JKGBHKA
RPA BFPWK BAUOKHDGJ ZKFDGV CPX."
— AKZU SLKGBDAK

Previous Solution: "When you start to develop your powers of empathy and imagination, the whole world opens up to you." — Susan Sarandon

TODAY'S CLUE: A debate

Full-time trucker parks too long in son's small apartment

DEAR ABBY: My widowed mother-in-law, “Minnie,” works full time as a trucker, traveling around the U.S. She doesn’t have a home of her own since she lives on the road. My husband and I live in a small one-bedroom apartment. When she’s here for holidays or family functions, she always sleeps on our couch.

Dear Abby



At first I didn’t mind once or twice for holidays, but since my niece was born, Minnie wants to be home more to visit with her. My husband’s brother has a large home and plenty of space, but Minnie never stays there because she doesn’t like my sister-in-law. Minnie is also irresponsible about letting us know when she’s coming and how long she will be staying. One night can turn into a week.

I have had many conversations and some blowout fights with my husband over this issue. He’s the older brother and feels guilty about asking her to stay at a hotel. My sister-in-law doesn’t help the situation. She sabotages holidays and events to ensure Minnie won’t feel comfortable staying there. I don’t know how I will manage to get through the holidays this year. Help! – Dreading It In The East

DEAR DREADING: Blowout fights with your husband are detrimental to your marriage. Because he appears to be unable to summon the backbone to have an honest conversation with his mother, I guess it’s up to you.

Explain to Minnie that the current arrangement isn’t working. Tell her twice-a-year visits for holidays and family functions were manageable, but in the future, if she’s unwilling to stay in her younger son’s home, she should arrange to stay at a hotel or motel for those “extra” visits.

DEAR ABBY: Some of my extended family members have become vegan. When they come to my home, I make sure to have appropriate food for them, in addition to nonvegan food for others. When I am invited to their homes for a celebration, they offer only vegan selections. No one is allowed to bring nonvegan or meat-based dishes to their home.

It has reached the point that I no longer want to go there when a meal is involved. I have tried talking to them about this, but their reply is, “No meat allowed in our home.” I now leave before mealtime because I don’t like a lot of their dishes.

Is it common for vegans to prohibit guests from ever taking other food into their home? Thanks for any light you can shed on this. – Meat Lover In Houston

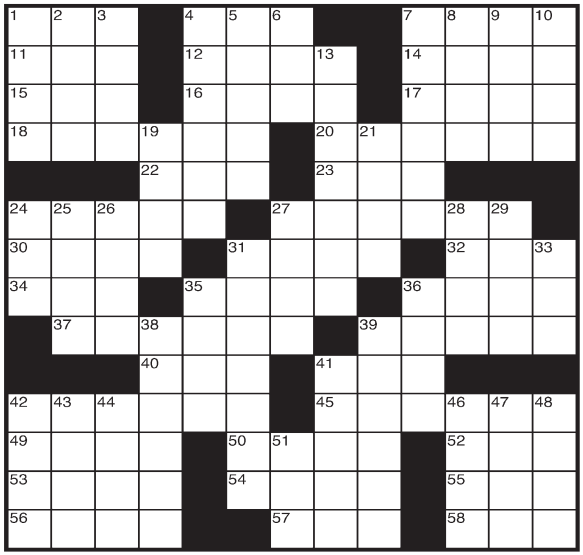
DEAR MEAT LOVER: People become vegans for a variety of reasons. Some do because they feel it is unethical to kill animals for food. Others do it because they feel raising animals for slaughter is harmful to the planet. People also become vegans for health reasons.

Individuals who adopt this way of life often feel as your relatives do, and that’s their privilege. If it impinges on your freedom or limits your enjoyment of these celebrations, forgo them and either participate in get-togethers that don’t include food or go to an accommodating restaurant.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

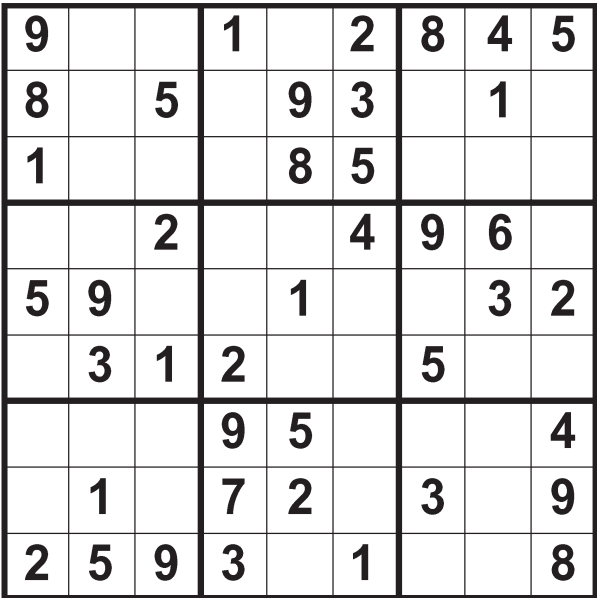
CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Eavesdrop
 - 4 Phooey!
 - 7 Audacity
 - 11 Cake alternative
 - 12 Zenith
 - 14 Play award
 - 15 Ms. Hagen
 - 16 — & the Gang
 - 17 Author’s need
 - 18 Serving of bacon
 - 20 Greek capital
 - 22 Coffee maker
 - 23 Golf peg
 - 24 Rough, as fabric
 - 27 North Sea structure (2 wds.)
 - 30 Fiesta cheers
 - 31 Billiards
 - 32 Machine tooth
 - 34 Forensic sci. tool
 - 35 “WNBA Tuesday” airer
 - 36 — fide
- DOWN**
- 1 San Antonio cager
 - 2 Pocket bread
 - 3 Stadium shouts
 - 4 Sweet roll source
 - 5 Oak nut
 - 6 Med. plan
 - 7 Burrowing rodent
 - 8 Skilled
 - 9 Detroit griddier
 - 10 Authorizes
 - 13 Glee
 - 19 Wheel parts
 - 21 Kiss and —
 - 24 Agree silently
 - 25 Arm bone
 - 26 Withstand
 - 27 Sorry!
 - 28 Screen image
 - 29 Not here
 - 31 Mind reader
 - 33 Invisible substance
 - 35 Corn servings
 - 36 Island near Java
 - 38 Jacks up
 - 39 Not brunette
 - 41 Walrus tusk
 - 42 Matted wool
 - 43 Arab VIP
 - 44 Fix a piano
 - 46 “Brian’s Song” star
 - 47 One-named singer
 - 48 Dance movement
 - 51 Be a thief



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆



12/3

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How to play:

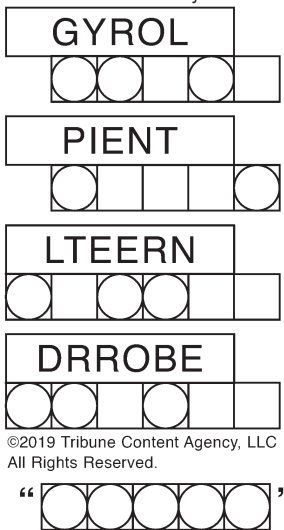
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

7	6	9	3	4	5	1	2	8
5	1	8	2	6	9	4	3	7
4	2	3	1	8	7	9	6	5
1	5	4	9	2	8	3	7	6
9	3	7	4	5	6	2	8	1
6	8	2	7	1	3	5	4	9
8	7	1	5	3	2	6	9	4
2	4	6	8	9	1	7	5	3
3	9	5	6	7	4	8	1	2

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

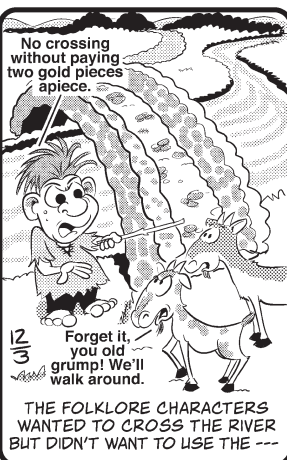


Yesterday's

Jumbles: FRAME SHRUG BRUNCH COMPLY
Answer: When both dogs went after the ball at the same time, the ball was — UP FOR GRABS

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

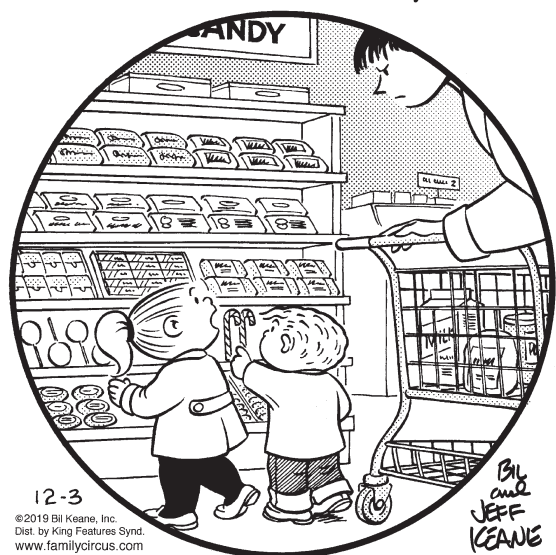


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

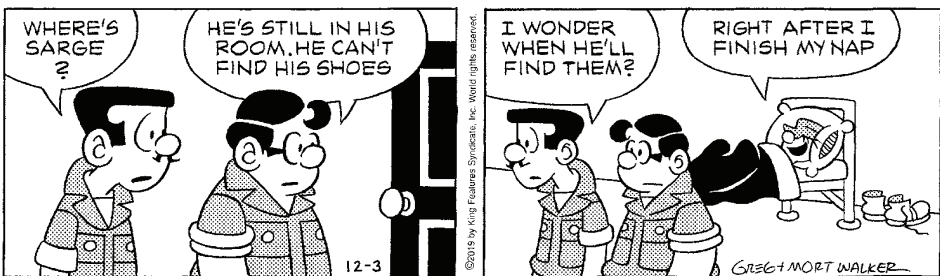


12-3

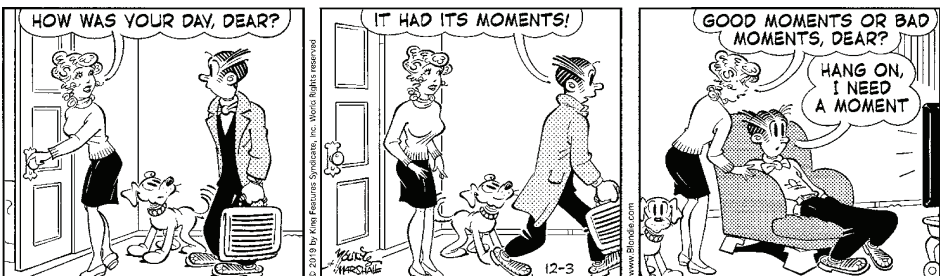
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“Which of us are you saying ‘no’ to, Mommy?”

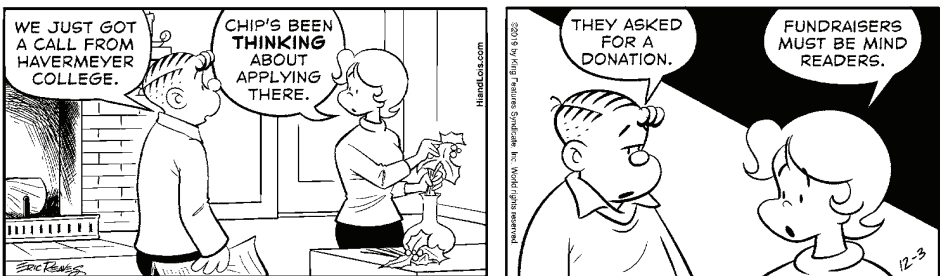
BEEBLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



HI & LOIS



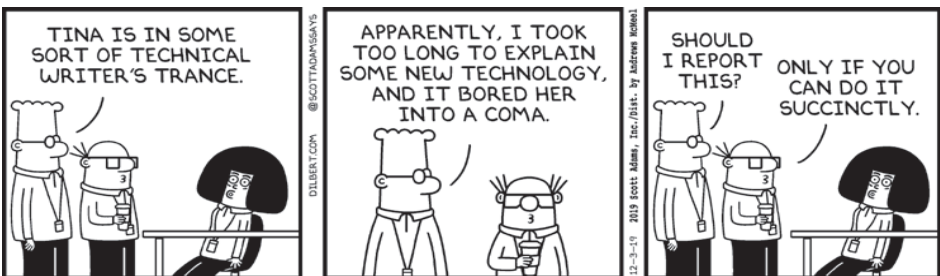
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WIZARD OF ID



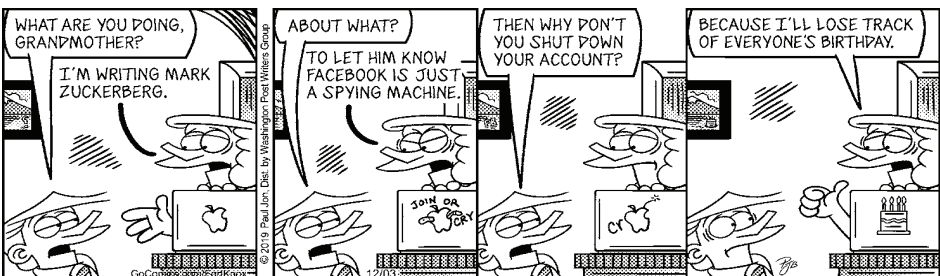
DILBERT



GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



God is the source of love

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: Google reported that the most asked theological question is “What is love?” Does this indicate that the majority of people really do not understand the source and gift of love? -- L.U.

A: Until the Good News of Jesus Christ burst onto the human scene, the word love was understood mostly in terms of seeking one’s own advantage. A loving God reaching down to sinful humans was unthinkable.

The Bible says, “Let us love one another, for love is of God ... for God is love. In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. ... He loved us and sent His

Son to be the [sacrifice] for our sins” (1 John 4:7-10).

The only way this is possible is to know the great love of God. The greatest act of love a person can ever perform for people is to tell them about God’s love for them in Jesus. God is the source of love; He is the demonstration of love, wrapped up in His righteousness, judgment, mercy and grace. From the beginning of time, God has sent out His message of love. To receive it we must be willing to listen and obey His Word.

It is also important to understand that true love -- God’s love -- is unchangeable; He knows exactly what we are and loves us anyway. It was God’s love which knew that mankind was incapable of obeying His law, and it was His love which promised a Redeemer, a Savior, who would save His people from their sins and empower them to live for Him.

True love is an act of the will -- and anyone who receives Christ as Savior does the will of the Father in Heaven.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“ILGPZR X DPAJR LGV URRB CBR
CH YLR URVY YLABNV YC LGDDR B
YC ICSBYPX OSVAI, YC DPCTR
AY URZCBNV YC RTRPXUCJX.”
— ZCPRYVG ZXBB

Previous Solution: “Life’s supposed to be about making the path a little gentler for those traveling behind you.” — Reba McEntire
TODAY’S CLUE: 4 sgnbe H

